FRIDAY
August 18, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
facebook.com/thehindu
twitter.com/the_hindu
instagram.com/the_hindu

Vol.54 • No.196

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

M.P., CHHATTISGARH POLLS

BJP announces first list of candidates

NEWS » PAGE 15

UNESCO HERITAGE SITE

Rain batters Kalka-Shimla railway route

NEWS » PAGE 16

SOARING VEGETABLE PRICES

Inflation to be well above 6% in Q2: RBI

BUSINESS » PAGE 17

DATA PROTECTION ACT

Case of conscious policy choices that dilute rights

It raises questions over standard for consent

EDITORIAL » PAGE 12

STAR ATTRACTION

Bumrah in focus as India faces Ireland

SPORT » PAGE 19

NEARBY

State to appeal to Cauvery authority

BENGALURU
Amid pressure from BJP and JD(S) that have slammed the government's decision to release the Cauvery waters to Tamil Nadu, the State government is set to appeal to the Cauvery Water Management Authority to reconsider its direction given to Karnataka. » PAGE 8

Lokayukta raids 48 locations

BENGALURU
In a major crackdown, 200 Lokayukta officials on Thursday carried out simultaneous raids across 48 different locations across State.

» Page 5

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Chandrayaan propulsion, lander modules separate

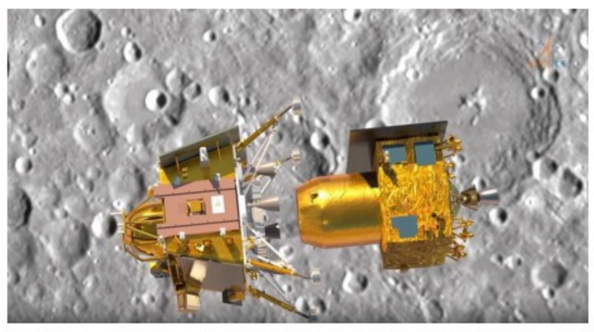
The lander module is set to descend to a slightly lower orbit upon a deboosting planned for today; payload in propulsion module will continue to be in operation for a period of three to six months

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

After 34 days on board the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft, the propulsion module and the lander module parted ways on Thursday, and have now embarked on their respective journeys.

After the separation, ISRO posted on X (formerly Twitter): "Thanks for the ride, mate!' said the Lander Module (LM). LM is successfully separated from the Propulsion Module (PM). LM is set to descend to a slightly lower orbit upon a deboosting planned for tomorrow around 1600 Hrs., IST."

The Chandrayaan-3 consists of a lander module, a propulsion module and a rover. According to ISRO, "The lander will have the capability to soft land at a specified lunar site and deploy the rover, which will carry out in-situ chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility. The lander and the rover have scientific payloads to carry out experiments on the lunar surface."



After the separation of the two modules, a series of complex braking manoeuvres will be executed to facilitate a soft landing. ISRO/X

The propulsion module also has one scientific payload that will be operated post-separation of the lander module. The payload will be operational for a period of three to six months.

The lander and the rover have a mission life of one lunar day (14 earth days).

As of now, the propulsion module continues its journey in the current orbit, and will continue to do so possibly for months or years. The Spectro-polarimetry of Habitable Planet Earth (SHAPE) payload on board the propulsion module would perform spectroscopic study of the Earth's atmosphere and measure the variations in polarisation from the clouds on Earth to accumulate signatures of exoplanets that would qualify for habitability by humans.

This payload is the work of U.R. Rao Satellite Centre, ISRO, Bengaluru.

After the separation of the two modules, a series of complex braking manoeuvres will be executed to facilitate a soft landing in the south polar region of the moon.

The lander is expected to touch down on the moon surface on August 23 at 5.47 p.m.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

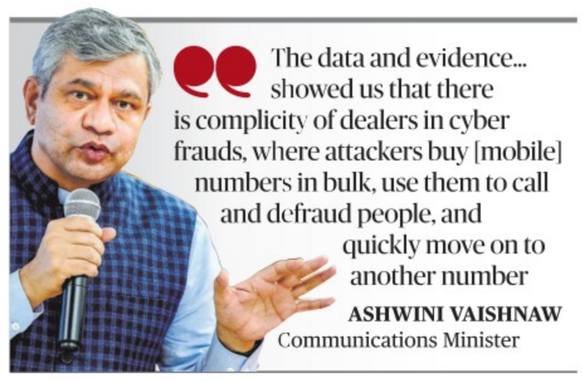
No more bulk SIM cards as govt. steps in to curb fraud

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

To reduce cyber frauds performed through fraudulently acquired SIM cards, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) will now mandate registration and "indisputable verification" of SIM dealers, it was announced on Thursday.

Recent efforts to curb fraudulent mobile connections have led to the blacklisting of 67,000 SIM dealers, 52 lakh connections, and the registration of over 300 First Information Reports (FIR), Minister for Communications Ashwini Vaishnaw told the media.

"The data and evidence... showed us that there is complicity of dealers in cyberfrauds, where attackers buy [mobile] numbers in bulk, use them to call and defraud people, and quickly move on to another number. SIM dealers who are found complicit in such schemes will be fined ₹10 lakh," he said.



> The data and evidence... showed us that there is complicity of dealers in cyber frauds, where attackers buy [mobile] numbers in bulk, use them to call and defraud people, and quickly move on to another number
>
> **ASHWINI VAISHNAW**
> Communications Minister

The facility to provide SIM connections in bulk to companies is being discontinued, and instead a "business" system is being put in place, where they have to undertake KYC (Know Your Customer) when a SIM is being issued to them.

The existing bulk system requires companies to preserve records of individual subscribers.

A transition period will be provided for bulk subscribers to get themselves verified under the new regime, Mr. Vaishnaw said. Government, defense and law enforcement bulk subscribers will continue to be exempt from additional verification requirements, he added.

The enforcement move follows the launch of the Sanchar Saathi portal in May, along with the wider roll-out of fraud detection mechanisms to identify individuals who have registered more than nine mobile connections, the maximum that is permitted.

Gang of four held for cheating senior citizen to pocket ₹3.5 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Banashankari police have arrested a gang of four, including a former bank employee, her mother, and a couple, who allegedly cheated a 63-year-old woman and made away with ₹3.5 crore.

The accused Arundhati, who worked as an insurance agent along with her husband Rakesh, befriended the victim Shantha P.N., from Banashankari, after coming to know that she was living alone. The couple convinced her to sell her house saying it had "vastu defects".

The victim lived alone after the death of her husband, while her daughter studied in the U.S., a police officer said.

After convincing Ms. Shantha to sell the house, the duo arranged a broker and buyer, and facilitated the sale of the house for ₹3.5 crore. Once the money was transferred, the accused convinced Ms. Shantha to invest the money and got her signatures on various forms. They later, colluding with a former bank employee, identified as Apoorva Yadav, transferred the money to various accounts and shared it among themselves.

The couple cleared their own loans and spent the money, while Apoorva Yadav cleared the loans for her mother and father-in-law.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Bescom helpline gets 1,089 Gruha Jyothi complaints in 16 days

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Most of them pertained to annual average calculation and entitled units; over 74 lakh zero bills issued under the scheme

Since the launch of the government's flagship scheme – Gruha Jyothi – on August 1, the helpline number (1912) of Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) has received 1,089 complaints from citizens as on Wednesday. Most of them were regarding the annual average calculation and entitled units. Of these, 989 have been resolved.

Mahantesh Bilagi, Managing Director, Bescom, said, "Consumers ask us why they are not eligible for the scheme even though they have consumed only 200 units since June. However, their annual average for last year would have been over 200 units. We explain to them how the previous year's average consumption is considered according to the rules." He said there were also several complaints from those living in rented houses. "The families who have moved into new rented houses have problems with their entitled units. They say entitled units to their meter is very less as the old tenants were consuming less electricity."

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Drones to monitor MGNREGS worksites

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

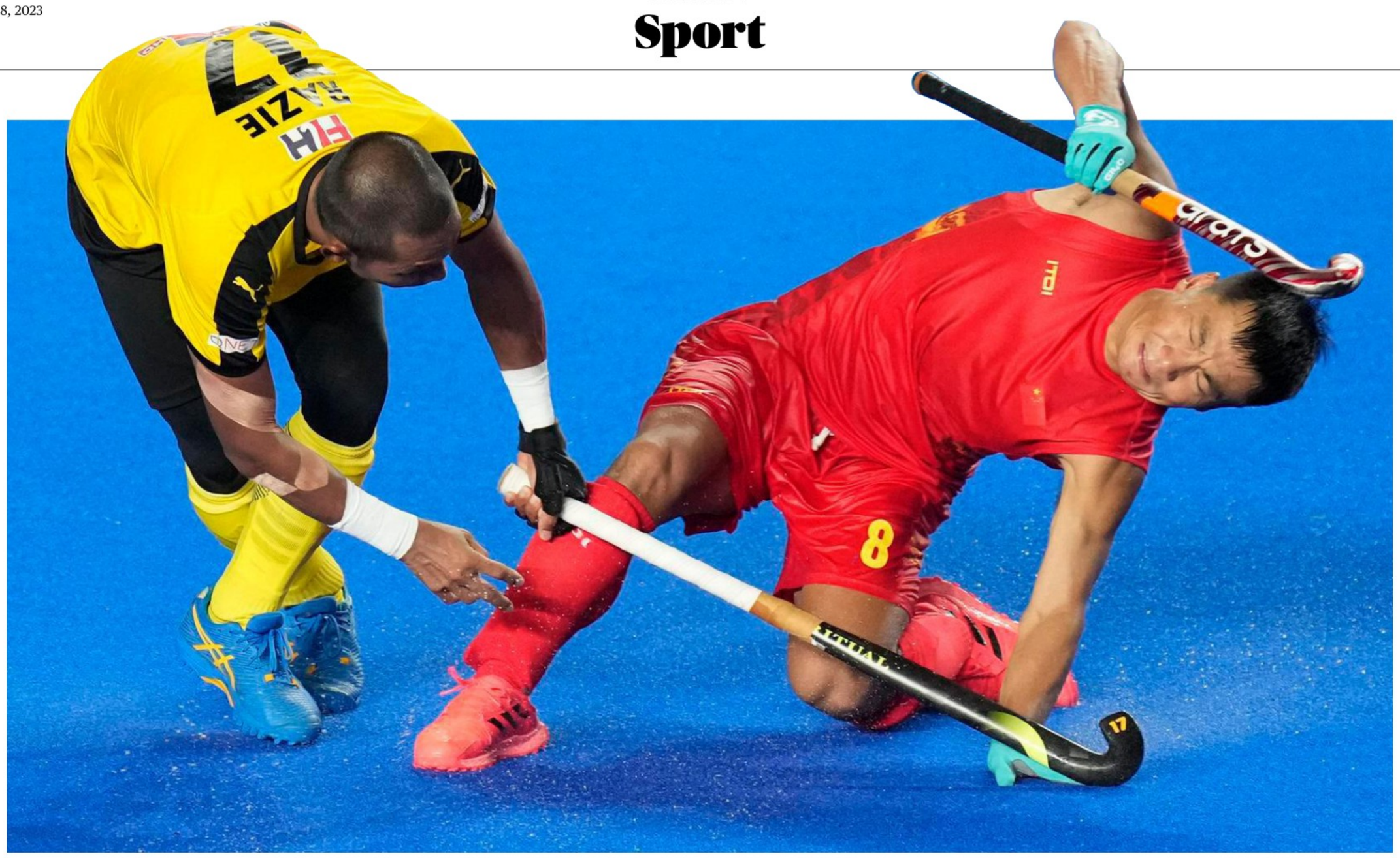
Increasing its surveillance of worksites under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), the Union Ministry of Rural Development will be pressing drones into service to monitor both the progress and quality of assets produced.

According to a standard operating procedure (SOP) recently issued by the Ministry, the drones will be used for four types of monitoring: surveying the ongoing works, inspecting the completed works, impact assessment, and special inspection in case of complaints. "There are several complaints about corruption in MNREGS works that we receive regularly. These vary from machines being used in place of the workers, many receiving wages without doing work, or works beyond the approved list being undertaken, and so on. Drones will be especially helpful in such cases for real-time monitoring and for garnering evidence," a senior Ministry official said. The SOP stipulates that the drones will be used by the ombudsperson in every district, who is responsible for registering *suo moto* complaints and disposing of them within 30 days.

Reality check: The drones will be used for surveying the ongoing works and inspecting the completed works. K.R DEEPAK

Union government SOP urges drone usage to investigate corruption complaints or other violations; States will not get additional funds for drones

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14



Another chance for Rahim to change the tone of familiarity in defeat

Wanting to see his team secure a place at the Olympics is what motivates the 35-year-old veteran to rally on. It is the unfinished dream that he wants to fulfil

His most cherished moment came in November 2022 when Malaysia defeated Korea to clinch its maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Cup — a tournament that the nation hosts

HOCKEY

Abhishek Saini

The last time a Malaysian hockey team played at the Olympics, Bill Clinton was the president of the USA, France was the FIFA World Champion, and man had just averted the Y2K crisis.

Players who have worn the iconic 'yellow and black' jersey since, have had to bear the ignominy of faltering at the final hurdle in trying to secure a place at the quadrennial event. Then there's the burden of letting down your fans.

Chances have come Malaysia's way. On more occasions than one, the Speedy Tigers have had their fate in their hands, but they have let the opportunities slip away. It has been a tale of one heartbreak after another, the most recent coming in 2018.

The 2018 Asian Games offered one spot at the Tokyo Olympics. Malaysia had bettered favourite India in the semifinal and was just one step away from achieving the elusive feat.

In the final, Malaysia led Japan 5-2 with 10 minutes left in the last quarter. The spot was right there, ready to be grabbed. Malaysia was charging full steam at it. Until it was not.

The Samurai Japan struck thrice in the next eight minutes to pare the score. Abdul Jalil put Malaysia back in front in the penultimate minute only for Japan to squeeze in a goal in the dying seconds and force a shootout.

Malaysia lost 1-3 in the subsequent contest and its hopes of finally breaking the Olympics jinx came crashing down.

For Razie Rahim, there was a tone of familiarity in the defeat. This was not the first time the 35-year-old stood at this crossroads. He was a part of the team that fell short at the same stage in 2010, losing 0-2 against Pakistan.

But the two reverses do not deter him from hoping for a brighter future. Wanting to see his team past the finish line is what motivates the veteran to rally on. It is the unfinished dream that he wants to fulfil.

"It is my personal target, my dream. This is why I am still going and in the team," Rahim told *Sportstar* before the Asian Champions Trophy.

Hockey was a happy coincidence for Rahim, who holds a Master's in Human Resource Management from University Putra in Serdang. "My ambition has been to be a policeman since I was a child. That degree was my platform to do the same," said Rahim.

Rahim was able to join the Royal Malaysia Police in 2016. The love for hockey, too, simmered somewhere in the meantime. While most kids pick up hockey sticks as young as four or five years old, Rahim was acquainted with the sport at 12 at his school.

"My teachers always supported me as they knew my capabilities in hockey, which provided me with great opportunities. Since then, I decided to play hockey seriously and it is now my profession," said Rahim in an interview for Ritual Hockey.

Rahim repaid the faith his teachers put in him. Debuting for the Speedy Tigers in 2006, Rahim has made 319 appearances to date and is one of the finest drag flickers the country has produced. His exploits have contributed to 136 goals for Malaysia.

But his most cherished moment came in November 2022 when Malaysia defeated Korea 3-2 to clinch its maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Cup – a tournament that the nation hosts.

"I think winning the Azlan Shah is a sweet memory. That moment gives us the motivation to keep going towards our target," said Rahim.

Of all the years Rahim has been a part of the Malaysian team, he thinks the current lot of players is the most closely-knit unit, capable of delivering on the big stage.

"I think the harmony in the team is much better than when I joined. Players are growing into their roles very fast. The players know our main target and how to manage their responsibility. They know their role as a national player," said Rahim.

The Speedy Tigers gave a glimpse of this harmony at the Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai. Staying true to their name, the Malaysian players flourished in lightning-paced attacks. Players like Firhan Ashari, Faizal Saari, Fitri Saari, Shello Silverius, and Muhajir Abdu put forth almost telepathic chemistry to break down opposition defences.

Even the then World No. 4 India bore the brunt of this offensive blitzkrieg when Malaysia scored three goals in the first half of the final. Although India turned the tie around, Malaysia made the home team toil for the result till the final hooter.

The performance fit Rahim's description of his unit. "We work very hard. The boys give everything," said Rahim.

Barring the late siege by India, it was the kind of performance you would hope for before a big tournament like the Asian Games.

The steely resolve is what Rahim and the rest of the team would want to channel in Hangzhou. A nation's hope rests on it.

Rahim's dream, too, will be decided by it. He fulfilled his first ambition of becoming a policeman, and whether he gets to the second depends on this resolve.

THE GIST

- Chances have come Malaysia's way. On more occasions than one, the Speedy Tigers have had their fate in their hands, but they have let the opportunities slip away. It has been a tale of one heartbreak after another, the most recent coming in 2018
- Of all the years Rahim has been a part of the Malaysian team, he thinks the current lot of players is the most closely-knit unit, capable of delivering on the big stage
- The Speedy Tigers gave a glimpse of this harmony at the Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai. Staying true to their name, the Malaysian players flourished in lightning-paced attacks

A BIKE DROP MOMENT

An extreme sport performed on a somewhat small cycle, flying off ramps and adding twists and turns mid-air. Freestyle BMX is not for the faint hearted. While some consider it terrifying to even watch, others find beauty in it. Perhaps because there are no specific rules — it's all about creativity, aesthetics and a lot of skill. It has been around for nearly 50 years now, and the sport has seen its fair share of highs and lows. The UCI Freestyle World Championship last week in Glasgow was a roaring success — it was a qualification event for the 2024 Olympics, where Freestyle BMX will feature for only the second time.
Britain's Kieran Reilly, pictured here, left his all on the course. His routine, which involved a 'triple whip', a 'front flip' and an incredible 'double flair', ended with him casually dropping his bike to the ground, earning him the world title and a ticket to Paris. GETTY IMAGES

A nation of new Matildas fans salutes Australia's run to World Cup semifinals

Associated Press

Sam Kerr looked up at the Stadium Australia crowd for the last time at this Women's World Cup, and it just compounded the gnawing disappointment that she and her Matildas had fallen one game before the final. "We've kind of captured the nation," a visibly dejected Kerr said after walking off the pitch. "The support we've had has been amazing and we'll do everything we can on the weekend to get them a third place."

The 29-year-old Kerr has won the golden boot for leading scorer in leagues in Australia, the United States and England, where she's a star for the champion Chelsea team. But her World Cup was heavily curtailed by an injury sustained on the eve of the Matildas' opening game on July 20.

"We just feel really proud that they've got behind us and we've changed the way women's football is seen in Australia," Kerr added. "It's been amazing. A big thank you."

Morning news bulletins on Thursday reported the "heartbreak" for the Matildas, and daily newspapers across the country once again heavily featured the women's national team.

Dejected: Disappointment is writ large on Kerr's face after the semifinal loss. REUTERS

No discounting

A high-profile sports store in downtown Sydney still had the Matildas jerseys – hard to attain in recent weeks – on display at full price. There'll be no discounting this team for a while.

The number of news pages devoted to the Matildas was unprecedented for women's sport and for football in Australia, too. And this is home to the long-time No. 1 women's cricket team – which pulled a crowd exceeding 86,000 for a game against India in 2020 – and world champions in netball.

The fact that an entire nation almost expected the Matildas to win the title says a lot about the pressure Kerr and her 10th-ranked team faced on home soil.

Gang of three arrested for stealing tender coconuts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A UPI payment made to a tea vendor led the police to crack down on a gang of tender coconut thieves.

The Jayanagar police on Thursday, arrested Goutham, Raghu and Manikantha, habitual offenders involved in a series of thefts targeting tender coconuts which were stored on footpaths and covered with tarpaulin.

The accused would use a goods autorickshaw with masked registration number plates and move around the city in the night time to steal coconuts. Using this modus operandi, the accused had stolen 15,000 tender coconuts, including 1,500 coconuts from a vendor near RV road metro station on August 7.

Based on a complaint, the Jayanagar police analysed 60 CCTV cameras to track down the accused. It was a difficult case with no clue as the accused had masked the registration number of the vehicle and were covering themselves with hoodies. However, in one of the CCTV footages, the accused had stopped on the roadside for a tea break and paid the vendor through UPI. The police rushed to the vendor and obtained the details of the payment which helped them to pin down the accused.

Man goes bankrupt after fraudsters knock off ₹90 lakh from account in over 5,000 transactions

Shockingly, the businessman has not shared OTP or any card details over phone to others

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A 62-year-old businessman from Bengaluru was rendered bankrupt as fraudsters nearly emptied his account through 5,000 transactions over the last one and a half years. He realised the fraud recently when he was unable to make payment due to low balance. An FIR has been registered at the East CEN police station.

The businessman, who ran a wholesale shop, is now forced to sell his establishment as he has no money to continue the business. Shockingly, he has not shared OTP or any card details over the phone with others, yet lost a huge amount of cash. The police who are probing the case are now scrambling as there are no clues as to how the money was transacted without the businessman's knowledge. The police told *The Hindu* that they are now working on finding clues and have asked the bank in which he is holding the account to send details of locations from where these transactions have happened. The businessman said that he has a debit card kept at home which he has not used. But the bank statement shows that transactions happened from 2021 to 2023. The transactions were made using card details on phone payment applications, and how fraudsters secured details is unknown. "I have not received any OTP or even messages of these transactions," he said, adding that the bank officials said they have not disabled transaction alerts set for his number.

The bank statements show hundreds of transactions from small to big amounts made for many purchases.

A cyber police official, who has cracked several cases said either his debit card was subjected to skimming or some known person may have gathered details and used it for transactions. In these kinds of cases, details given by victims plays a major role as calling, OTP sharing or clicking links were not involved, he said.

> We are now working on finding clues and have asked the bank in which he is holding the account to send details of locations from where these transactions have happened
> **POLICE OFFICIAL**

Man arrested for cheating e-commerce company

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Yeshwanthpur police arrested a student from a reputed college who was allegedly colluding with a former employee and cheating an e-commerce company.

Shivaprakash Devaraju, DCP, north division, said that the cheating came to light when the manager of the company noticed that many products, which were being purchased from the same address, were not returned even after cancellation of the order. Based on the complaint, the police tracked down the address and arrested the accused and recovered expensive gadgets, including 17 mobile phones, 2 Macbooks, a desktop, gaming laptop, Apple ear pods and air conditioner worth ₹20.3 lakh. The police have also seized the bank account containing ₹30 lakh.

The accused told the police that he was involved in the cheating in collusion with a former employee of the company and was doing it on commission basis. He told the police that he contacted the prime accused after noticing an advertisement on Telegram app which offered to buy expensive products from Amazon and also get refund.

The prime accused, according to the police, is a former employee who had the access code of the website and manipulated the data of product return. Even though the request of returning the product was raised and the money for the product returned, the product would not be returned.

The accused was asked to share the profit by transferring money in crypto currency accounts. The police also found that the prime accused had approached the account holders of crypto currency and cliched a deal that money will be transferred to their accounts and he will withdraw the amount after paying commission to them. The police are on the manhunt for the prime accused.

No power supply in many areas tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There will be no power supply on Saturday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the areas serviced from 31.5 MVA Power Transformer 1 of 220/66/11kV ITI Station.

Disruption
According to a release from BESCOM, East Circle, the areas that will be affected are: Kaveri Nagar, Singaianapalya, Bhattarhalli, Medahalli, T.C. Palya, R.M.S Colony, K.R. Puram, Devasandra, Ayyappanagar, Shanthi Layout, Jinkethimmanahalli, Aneppa Circle, Akshaynagar, Kowdenahalli, ITI Layout, B. Narayanapura, Nagappa Reddy Layout, Kondappa Reddy Layout, Udaynagar, MEG Layout, PWD Main Road, Sai Baba Layout, K.R. Puram, U.B. Layout, Karunasree Layout, Cambridge Layout, and surrounding areas.

AIC
www.aicofindia.com

AGRICULTURE INSURANCE COMPANY OF INDIA LIMITED
Regd. Office: Plate B & C, 5th Floor, Block 1,
East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi-110023
CIN : U74999DL2002PLC118123

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT/FIRM

Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AIC), invites Request for Proposal (RFP) from Enterprise Risk Management Department for Appointment of Consultant/ Firm for providing Risk Management Consultancy Services & Cyber Security Regulations review & amendments.

The RFP document may be downloaded from AIC website www.aicofindia.com under "Tender" tab or Government eportal www.eprocure.gov.in.

The last date for submission of Proposal is **05.09.2023 till 03:00 pm.**

Date: 18.08.2023
Place: New Delhi

Chief Risk Officer
ERM Department

HO/23-24/2A/12

फसल हो या कृषि संपदा। बीमा सुरक्षा हमारा वादा ।।

AhaGuru
IIT JEE + CBSE + NEET

Try Our FREE Sample Lessons
For IIT JEE, CBSE & NEET!

Class 7 to 12

REGISTER NOW!

Scan the QR code to get a FREE Sample lesson

96001 00090
96001 00020

THE HINDU GROUP

Gold winner PRESENTS

The search for the Master Chef of Karnataka
THE HINDU
our State our Taste

CO PRESENTED BY
RKG AGMARK GHEE

POWERED BY
Butterfly

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
AASHIRVAAD | Parry's | EVEREST

DO YOU HAVE THE RECIPE FOR FAME AND SUCCESS?

*Map not to scale.

Karnataka's most delicious contest is coming to your town. Cook a traditional Kannada dish, or give it a special twist and bring it to the venue.

If our jury loves it, you could be shortlisted for the grand live cooking finale in Bengaluru. Your culinary skills can make you the next **Master Chef of Karnataka.**

Get your dishes judged by Celebrity Chef duo
Oggarane Dabbi Murali & Suchitra Muralidhar

To participate:
Scan the QR code or register at
bit.ly/OSOT2023 (or) WhatsApp / Call / SMS your Name <space> City <space> Name of dish to:
96064 74973 / 96064 74974

1 LAKH* FIRST PRIZE
60,000* SECOND PRIZE
40,000* THIRD PRIZE

*T&C apply.

Gold winner Mandatory to present one dish using Gold Winner cooking oil and bring the used wrapper/container to the contest venue.

Click a picture of your Butterfly appliance and show at the venue. Get additional points!

Regional winners from each city will get products from Butterfly

Bring wrapper/ containers of RKG Ghee, AASHIRVAAD Atta, Parry's Sugar & Bambino to the venue and get extra points.

Bidar
August 19, 2023 | 10:30 am onwards
Karnataka Sahitya Sangh Trust Bidar
Near Ambedkar Cir, behind Sindol Petrol Pump, Nawadgeri, Bidar - 585 401.

Kalaburgi
August 20, 2023 | 10:30 am onwards
Patrika Bhavan
Zilla panchayat office complex (near water tank), Jagat Circle, Kalaburagi - 585 102.

Presenting Partner: Gold winner | Co Presented by: RKG | Powered by: Butterfly | In association with: AASHIRVAAD, Parry's, EVEREST | Vermicelli Partner: Bambino | Realty Partner: SVAMITVA | TV Partner: Suvarna TV

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ▪ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ▪ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ▪ 2335700

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

Since 2001
Global IAS Academy
Top 30 Ranks in Top 100 Rank

IAS 2024

Starts from AUGUST 25th

- Morning /Evening & Weekend Batches
- Mentorship + Program
- IGNITE - Test Series / Writing Sessions
- 24x7 Mobile App Access
- Library & study Materials

Branches @ Marthahalli HSR layout Koramangala

GET IT ON Google Play
Scan for toppers & Interactive Program Highlights
99640 13666
www.globalias.in

TENDERS

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA (ICAI)
(Set up by an Act of Parliament)
Head Office : ICAI Bhawan, Indraprastha Marg, New Delhi – 110 002.
Regional Office : ICAI Bhawan, 122, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034. Tamil Nadu, India.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

ICAI invites bids, in prescribed format, from experienced and reputed Architectural firms / Architects for Appointment of Architect for providing comprehensive Architectural and PMC services for ICAI International Centre of Excellence (ICOE) proposed institutional building, at Institutional plot covering plot No's. Pb-10, 11, 12, 13/1, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 23 in the SIPCOT industrial estate, Irungattukkottai, Sriperumbudur taluk, Kancheepuram district- 602 117, Tamil Nadu.

The last date of receipt of duly filled in bids is 11/09/2023, up to 5.00 PM. The detailed terms and conditions Tender are available at ICAI's www.icai.org & www.sirc-icai.org.

Secretary, ICAI

REAL ESTATE

PLOTS FOR SALE
Gated Community Approved Layout with Bank Loan (LP No:201/2020, RERA No:P02400002448) on Bangalore NH facing @Shadnagar
Contact
Garimella Revanth
8008 118 134
6303 352 568

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

It is for general information that I, Rashmi K C D/o Doreswamy Kannan, W/o Harish H V, residing at A C R Lifestyle Apartments, Site No 36/2 And 36/3, Kudlu Road, Opp Iyengar Layout ,Bommanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560068 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Rashmi Chakravarthy in my Passport No.G1523407 for all purposes in future ,which may be amended accordingly.

I, KURUVADA Krishna Murthy, Residing at Flat No.101, Building No.4/1, Compass Greens, 8th Main, 12th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003, have changed my daughter's name from Shriya to Shriya Kuruvada vide affidavit dated 16-08-2023 before Notary K.S.Giridhar, Bangalore.

XPRESSIONS

GREETINGS

SRIRAMA WHERE ARE YOU
A 31st BIRTHDAY WITHOUT YOU
18-08-1983

DEAR SRIRAM PAPU
Praying for your Happiness
Wherever you are
Waiting for the Reunion
Your loved ones.

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

JOB FAIR FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
Nightingales Medical Trust organizes a free job fair for retired persons between 55-70 years, physically fit and interested to work. To be held on Sunday, 20th August at St. Joseph's University, Langford Town, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
Visit : www.nightingalesjobs60plus.com or call 9243737214 / 080-42426565 for more details.
Employers willing to employ seniors are most welcome.

REAL ESTATE

BSNL HOUSING Society premium residential & commercial sites near Blore Intl Airport on 6 Lane NH-207 Rs1100/-sft, open for general public. Call : 9071534000

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 13th ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE
O.S No. 25299/2021 (CCH-22)

BETWEEN:
Mr. MALLIKARJUNA SWAMY
S/o.Late C. Muniswamaiah,
Aged about 65 years, Residing at No.401, 4th Floor D.G.Medows, No. 14 & 15, Khatha No. 89/5, 12th Street, Prakruti Layout, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043 ...Plaintiff
AND:
Mr. R. THYAGARAJAN,
S/o. Late S.Ramanathan,
Aged about 47 years,
Residing at No.41/15, "Swastika Residency" 14th 'A' Cross, 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038. ...Defendant

Whereas the plaintiff has instituted said Original Suit for Injunction Under Order VII Rule 1 and 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the case is posted for hearing on **26.09.2023.** Therefore, you are hereby Summoned to appear in this Court in person or by pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the suit, without fail.

Failing which the case will be heard and determined in your absence.

SCHEDULE
SCHEDULE-A PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.14 and 15, Katha No.89/5, measuring East to West: 60 Ft and North to South: 40 Ft, in total measuring 2400 Sq.Ft, situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, and this property comes under the jurisdiction of BBMP, Ward No.25, Bangalore and bounded on the :-

East by: Site No.16,
West by: 20 Ft Road,
North by: 25 Ft Road,
South by: Site Nos.24 & 25.

SCHEDULE -B PROPERTY

132.55 Sq.ft undivided share, right title, and interest in the Schedule A Property.

SCHEDULE -C PROPERTY

Residential apartment bearing Flat No.401, on 4th Floor, Building known as D.G Meadows 4th Floor, No. 14 & 15, Khatha No. 89/5, 12th Street, Prakruti layout, Horamavu, Bangalore-560043 measuring a total super built area of 1156 Sq.ft, consisting of three(3) bedrooms, together with a one car parking slot in the stilt Floor in the residential apartment building constructed over the Schedule - A Property inclusive of proportionate share in the common areas such as passage, lobbies, lift, staircase and other areas of common area (including half portion in depth of the joints between the ceiling of the apartment and floors of the apartment above it, internal and external walls between such levels) and the building is of RCC roofing as per specification appended to the construction agreement, vitrified flooring, with separate electricity, common water and sanitation, including all rights, title, interest, privileges, appurtenances.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this the 8th day of August 2023.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Deputy Registrar
City Civil Court
Mayohall at Bangalore

Advocate for Plaintiff:
Mahendra Gowda. C.R, Advocate
#361/24, 7th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027.

ALS has life altering impact on everybody involved, including patients and those entrusted with their care. GETTY IMAGES

ALS patients and caregivers struggle with multiple issues related to disease

ALS support groups urge that it be counted as a rare disease to ease eligibility for aid; India's National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021 states that 'aid up to ₹50 lakh will be provided to those suffering from any category of rare diseases' and getting treatment in any Centre of Excellence

Gautam Nirmal Doshi

The only way Nita Parekh (69) of Pune, is able to communicate with her family and, on rare occasions, with others is by blinking her eyes and nodding slightly. "The last time I saw her standing was probably in August 2021", said Sohil Parekh (45), Mrs. Parekh's only child and primary caregiver, along with his father. Unable to move a muscle below her neck, Mrs. Parekh has been bedridden for almost two years due to the debilitating effects of a rare disease called Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (or ALS).

ALS is a neurodegenerative disease in which special nerve cells called motor neurons in the brain and spine - which control an individual's voluntary functions like walking, chewing, talking, moving their arms- are affected.

As these nerve cells progressively die, the muscles dependent on them are unable to function or move, due to which they begin to atrophy or waste away. ALS is a progressive disease. "Once it involves the motor neurons that regulate respiratory muscles, breathing gets affected', explains Joy Desai, a neurologist in Mumbai.

Currently, there is no effective cure for ALS and the best therapies are drugs and other interventions that could lengthen the life of the person with ALS (or PALS). While the disease progresses differently in each individual, the average survival time is three years , according to The ALS Association, a non-profit organisation, or between 20 to 48 months on an average, according to a study by Chio et. al, 2009.

Difficulty with the diagnosis

From the onset of symptoms, it takes around 8 to 15 months for diagnosis, according to a study by Paganoni et. al. (Link?!) That is because there are also no definite biomarkers yet.

This amount of time between the onset of symptoms and confirmed diagnosis is agonising for the caregivers and PALS.

"For ALS, motor cell failure needs to be detected in at least 2 regions of the body; either one of the upper limbs or any of the lower limbs, and one more region like the bulbar region which controls the muscles needed for swallowing, speaking, chewing, and other functions", Dr. Desai says. Suppose one comes in with just one symptom like one hand not working like before or a leg that drags, then that is not enough for it to be diagnosed as ALS, he adds.

Changes in ways of living

Usha Gupta's symptoms started appearing from February that year, but it wasn't until December that she was diagnosed with ALS. While it was a shock that Mrs. Usha [61] had been struck with an incurable and fatal disorder, it also came with the difficulties of transforming her son Ajay's and her husband's lives.

Being a caregiver is a challenging task for a loved one. "Right now, she is completely bedridden, and has to be tube fed", said Ajay. Like Mrs. Nita, the only way Mrs. Usha is able to communicate is by blinking. Ajay had to give up attempts at the CA final exams, and now, he is on medication to help him cope with depression, faces the daily worry of a nurse or aayah (nursemaid) not showing up for work - wherein he'd have to skip work and help out, and a medical emergency given his mother's advanced stage of ALS.

Caregivers are completely uprooted from their routine. In Mumbai, Devaunshi Talsania [39], whose mother, Veena Doshi, succumbed to ALS in October 2017, mentioned, "From 9 in the morning to 10 in the night, I used to be by my mother's side because she needed help for each and every thing. I took her to the washroom every morning, and also bathed her since I was the only female help accessible to her." Devaunshi had to quit her job, so that she could visit her mother every single day. "Of course it affected a lot of areas of my life, whether it's my overall health or social life. But at the end of the day that is nothing compared to the fact that my mother needed me", she said.

> There is no cure for ALS and the best therapies are drugs and other interventions that could lengthen the life of a patient. The average survival time is three years

The mental health of the PALS, and their caregivers is affected severely. A 2021 study called 'Prevalence of depression among amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) patients: A systematic review and meta-analysis' by Heidari et. al. draws the conclusion that there is a high prevalence of depression among people with ALS, affecting their quality of life and mobility.

"My mother was very independent and active. She lost her desire to meet people, even her siblings, or socialise because she hated receiving sympathy, and for others to see her in that [paralysed] state. She was very depressed", said Devaunshi.

Infrastructural inefficiencies

Out of the many problems that affect the quality of life of a PALS, one of them is the lack of accessibility of those restricted to a wheelchair due to infrastructural inefficiencies. While it was next to impossible for Devaunshi to take her mother down from the first floor to a park nearby, as she lived in an 80 year-old building which is not wheelchair-friendly, Ajay does not take his mother out of the residential complex, due to the fear of safety and the lack of empathy he experienced from car and bike drivers in Kolkata.

"If I had to compare what I witnessed in the U.S. and in India, when it came to how wheelchair-friendly they are, I'd say that in India, accessibility does not exist. It's ironic that even the office of the neurologist we went to was not accessible", said Sohil. Due to the lack of space in their home in Mumbai, Sohil and his family moved to a bigger flat in Pune, where navigating with a wheelchair is possible. "My mother was active and would go for Satsang daily too. We also had to make modifications to our car so that a wheelchair could be integrated to it. Ramps, lifting equipment, commode chairs, are few tools that we acquired to help with mobility", Sohil explained.

ALS does not distinguish between the rich and the poor, but the financial demands it makes are staggering, if one pursues treatment. Ajay spends over ₹ 1 lakh monthly for his mother. "Medications are around ₹ 35-40,000 every month. We have to hire a nurse and a nursemaid as well. So if you add up the medication cost, salaries, cost of daily physiotherapy, and the opportunity cost, you could say that I easily spend around 1.2-1.5 lakhs per month", he broke it down.There is no insurance cover for persons with ALS.

Rare disease tag

A salient feature of the Union Government's National Policy for Rare Diseases (NPRD), 2021, is that 'financial assistance up to ₹ 50 lakh will be provided to the patients suffering from any category of rare diseases and getting treatment in any of the Centre of Excellence identified'.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines a rare disease as an 'often debilitating lifelong disease or disorder with a prevalence of 1 or less, per 1000 population'.

However, the NPRD also states the average prevalence threshold used to define rare diseases is from 1 to 6 in 10,000 people.

Six out of one lakh people have ALS, according to a study called "Global Epidemiology of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Systematic Review of the Published Literature" by Chio et. al. This amounts to less than 1 in 10,000 having ALS, and thus, should qualify as a 'rare disease' in India, as per the definitions stated in the NPRD.

(gautam.doshi@thehindu.co.in)

Salt pan workers face a dire threat to their physical health. N RAJESH

Heat stress poses health risks for salt pan workers, finds study

Serena Josephine M.

A study among salt pan workers in Tamil Nadu has highlighted the impact of heat stress. It found that nine of 10 salt pan workers self-reported heat-strain symptoms, their average water intake was one litre during the workday and a majority were exposed to high levels of heat stress, the study outlined the need for workplace interventions to provide access to water, rests in shade, sanitation and education on the need to hydrate.

The study - 'Occupational Heat Stress and Kidney Health in Salt Pan Workers' - conducted by a team led by Vidhya Venugopal, professor of Occupational and Environmental Health, Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, looked at 352 workers in seven salt pans in Tamil Nadu - four in Marakkanam and three in Vedaranyam between 2017 and 2020. It was published in the Kidney International Reports.

The researchers evaluated the workload for different job roles and classified heat stress levels. Key indicators such as pre-and post-shift heart rates, core body temperatures, urine characteristics, sweat rates and kidney function parameters were measured.

Workers at breaking point

Every participant had either a heavy or moderate workload, and close to 90% of workers were working above the recommended limits of heat exposure. The wet-bulb globe temperature, a measure of environmental factors affecting thermal comfort, consistently surpassed safe levels in the saltpan.

The majority of workers (93%) reported that they had experienced at least one of the self-reported heat strain systems - excessive sweating, thirst, dizziness, muscle cramps, headache, nausea/vomiting, fainting, or prickly heat/rashes. Dry mouth or severe thirst - signs of dehydration - was reported by 59% of the workers. About 77% of the workers reported at least one of these symptoms - changes in urine volume or colour, burning sensations when urinating, rashes and urinary tract infections (UTI).

Workers brought a one-litre bottle and could refill. But reported water consumption was low. About 23% of women said they would drink more if they had better toilet access.

One out of every five had taken sick leave owing to heat-related health difficulties in the last six months, while a third said they did not finish work on time because of the heat.

Kidney health

What was worrying was the impact of heat stress on kidney health: the study revealed a prevalence of low estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR), a marker of kidney function, in seven percent of workers. Heat stress has been linked to various kidney-related issues including acute kidney injury, kidney stones, chronic kidney disease and UTI.

Dr. Venugopal, who is also a co-investigator of the UK NIHR Funded Global Health Research Centre, said: "We have compelling evidence that heat stress poses significant health risks. Urgent action is needed to implement adaptation strategies and improve healthcare, sanitation access and welfare facilities to protect vulnerable individuals."

(serena.m@thehindu.co.in)

Platelets 'replicate benefits of exercise'

Press Trust of India

Scientists have found that an injection of specific blood molecules can replicate the benefits of exercise in the brain, paving the way for potential new treatments for age-related cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease patients.

The study, published recently in *Nature Communications*, found platelets, the tiny blood cells critical for blood clotting, secrete a protein that rejuvenates neurons in aged mice in a similar way to exercise.

"We know exercise increases the production of new neurons in the hippocampus, the part of the brain important for learning, but the mechanism hasn't been clear," said Odette Leiter from University of Queensland in Australia.

"We know platelets are involved, this study shows platelets are required for this effect in the aged mice," Leiter said.

The study focused on exerkines, the compounds released into blood during exercise, which are believed to stimulate the response in the brain.

HUMERUS

RAVIKANTH

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

TANISHQ PRESENTS
RIVAĀH
WEDDING JEWELLERY

84,995 BRIDES PAID NOTHING FOR THEIR WEDDING JEWELLERY.

Get 100%* exchange value on gold above 22kt, bought from any jeweller.

To locate your nearest store and know more on 6366920017. Buy online at tanishq.co.in or Download our App *Conditions apply.

Showrooms at **Bangalore:** Dickenson Road, Koramangala, Kamanahalli, E-City, Marathahalli, HSR Layout, Phoenix Mall, Nexus Shantiniketan Mall, Bannerghata, Jaynagar, Banashankari, Vijayanagar, Kanakapura Road, Basaveshwaranagar, New BEL Road, **New Stores at** Whitefield: Tel: 080-22633335; KR Puram: Subhash Nagar, Batarahalli. Tel: 9611730802; RR Nagar - BEML Layout, Jawaharlal Nehru Road. Tel: 080-47574666, **Relocated to new premises at** Malleswaram - Sampige Road. Tel: 9164326100 & Yelahanka - Opp. to The Galleria Mall. Tel: 080-43364336; **Mysore:** No.2927, Bangalore - Nilgiri Road, Near Suburban Bus Stand. Tel: 821 428 0074; **Tumkur:** ADR Complex, Ground Floor, General Kariyappa Road, K R Extension. Tel: 816 4041666

Think Plots. Think KNS.

KNS INFRA

KNS ANANTA

*ARTISTIC IMPRESSION
*VALID ONLY ON 19th & 20th AUG 2023

SCAN FOR LOCATION

ಕೆ.ಎನ್.ಎಸ್.
PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/220623/006012
rera.karnataka.gov.in

BDA APPROVED

Open your world to limitless possibilities.

New day brings many choices and when your environment supports those limitless choices, you find yourself pleasantly surprised. Welcome to Ananta, it's the place where inspiration takes on limitless forms to foster a limitless lifestyle that caters to the fullest expression of yourself. Whether it's the soothing act of sitting still as you watch the sunrise gleam over the myriad shades of the terraced gardens or choose to enjoy a game of tennis its all possible here,

PRICES START FROM ₹60L* ONWARDS

PRELAUNCHING

UPSCALE PLOTTED DEVELOPMENT

OFF MYSURU ROAD, KENGERI

ADJACENT TO BDA KEMPEGOWDA LAYOUT

01 STATE OF THE ART CLUBHOUSE
02 COUNTLESS SPORTS AMENITIES
03 MYRIAD OF RELAXATION ZONES
04 BDA APPROVED | RERA REGD

PLOT SIZES

30x40 | 30x50 | 40x60

BDA ಅನುಮೋದನೆ

*Clubhouse is not a part for Project amenities, membership charges applicable

limitless living.

ENJOY PRELAUNCH BENEFIT
FLAT 250/- OFF
PER SQFT

JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE PRELAUNCH EVENT
19th & 20th
AUGUST 2023

TALK TO US TODAY

*TnC Applied

KNS PROPWORTH LLP

Don't forget to carry your Cheque Book Aadhaar Card & Pan Card with you on your visit.

Disclaimer: The images and impressions contained herein are artist's impression indicative of the actual design for information purpose only. This information and the contents herein mentioned are subject to change and is being updated by us in the light of enactment and commencement of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016. The Company reserves the right to change by adding, deleting or altering the information/material including designs, plans, specifications, facilities, images, features, amenities such as clubhouse, parks etc without any prior notice. Any interested party should verify all the information including designs, plans, specifications, facilities, features etc. independently with the Company prior to concluding any decision for buying in the project. For RERA registration information, visit: www.rera.karnataka.gov.in
*T & C Apply

8880662233
knsananta.com

A BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The amount spent by the BJP for Gujarat 2022 State polls

209 in ₹ crore. According to details submitted to the Election Commission, BJP paid nearly ₹41 crore to candidates contesting the polls and over ₹15 crore on travel expenditure. PTI

Sensor machines flagged as faulty by the Indian Railways

3,000 Sensor machines, each costing five lakh, used for detecting railway track occupancy by a train, has been red flagged by officials as "faulty" after testing. PTI

The average Indian user's spending on online gaming: survey

100 in ₹. An average user spends less than ₹100 on online gaming and ₹200-400 on over-the-top platforms, according to a report by technology and policy think tank Esya Centre. PTI

Worth of Israel's largest-ever defense deal with Germany

3.5 in billion dollars. Israel's Defense Ministry said it has secured its largest-ever defense deal selling a sophisticated missile defense system to Germany for $3.5 billion after the U.S. approved the deal. AP

The probability of stagflation risk for India: RBI study

3 in percentage. "Stagflation risk remains low for India with a probability of only 3% with easing of financial conditions, ...and steady domestic fuel prices," a study by RBI showed. REUTERS

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

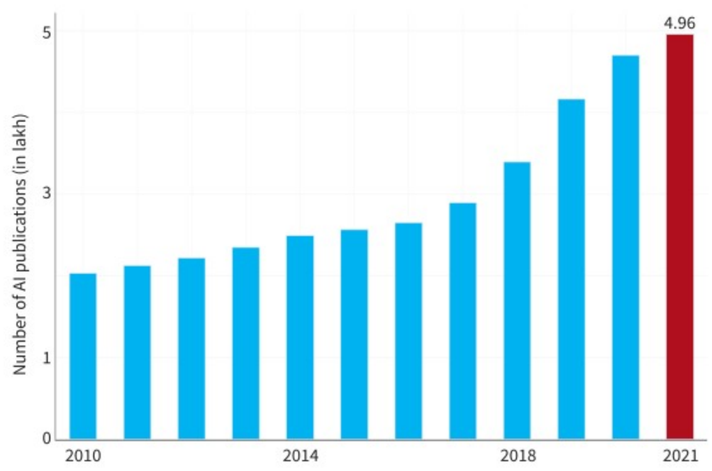
GRAPHICALLY SPEAKING

India tops AI projects in GitHub

In 2022, software developers in India contributed to over 24% of AI related projects in GitHub, the most in the world, according to Stanford's latest Artificial Intelligence Index Report. However, China dominates AI-related journal publications by a huge margin. Also, in terms of journal collaborations in AI, the U.S. and China are leading other country pairs

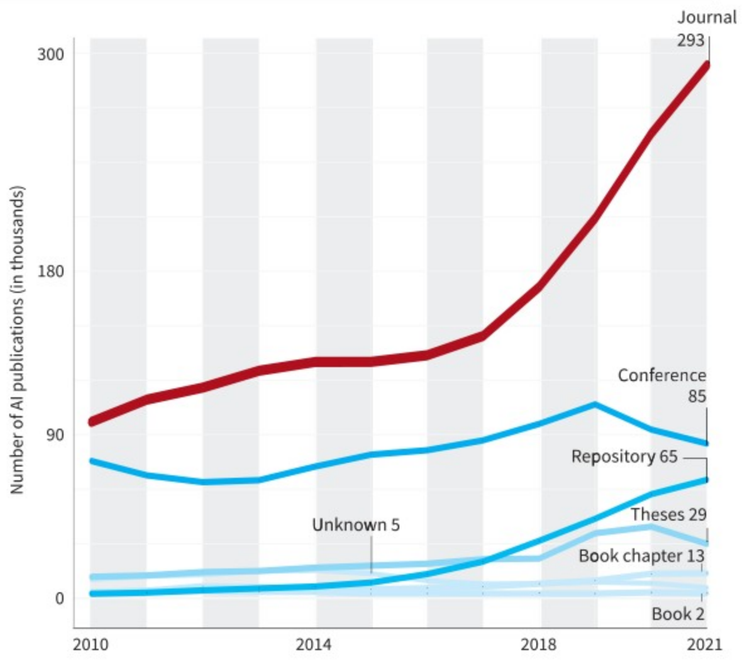
Publication count

The chart depicts the global count of AI publications. Between 2010 and 2021, AI publications increased significantly, rising from 2 lakh in 2010 to nearly 5 lakh by 2021



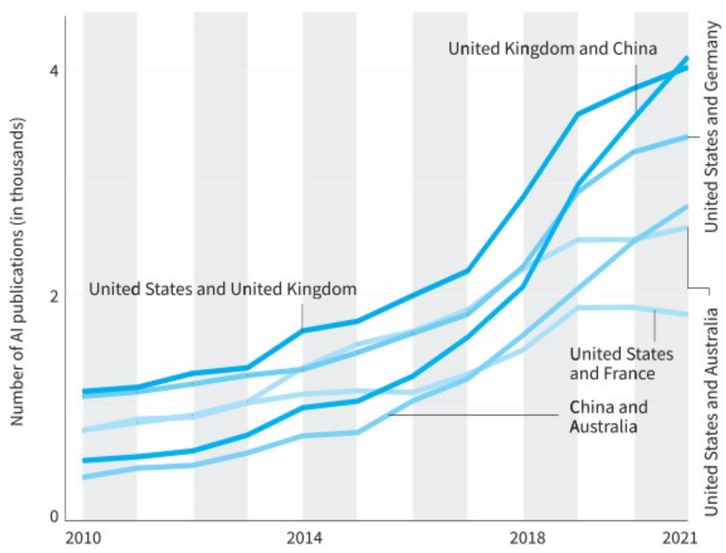
Types of publications

The chart illustrates the categories of AI publications worldwide over the years. In 2021, journal articles constituted 60% of all AI publications, followed by conference papers and repository submissions. The remaining was a mix of books, book chapters, theses, and unidentified document types



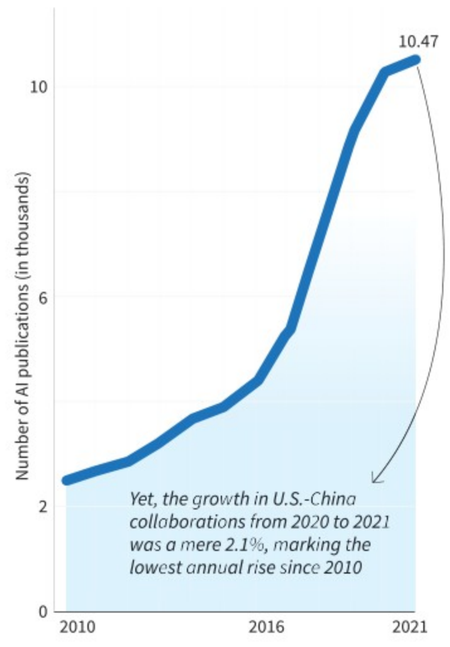
Collaboration

International partnerships among scholars, industry specialists, and others play a vital role in advancing STEM fields. They foster quick sharing of new concepts and team expansion. The chart shows major international AI partnerships from 2010 to 2021, excluding the U.S.-China partnership



Most collaborations

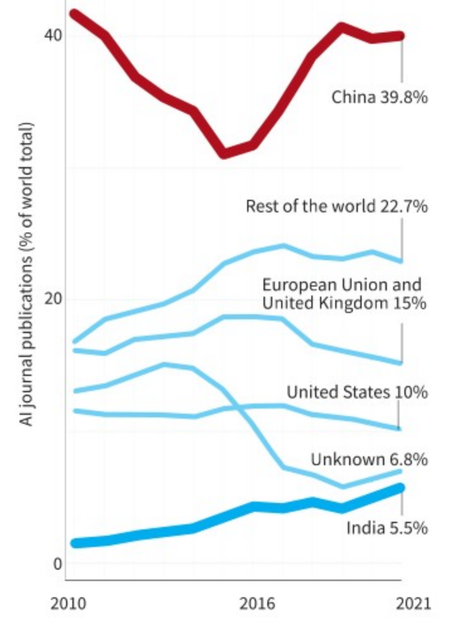
Over the last 12 years, the predominant collaborations have been between the United States and China, witnessing an approximate fourfold increase since 2010



CSET tallied collaborations across countries by identifying unique pairs of nations among authors for each paper. For instance, a publication with four authors from the U.S. and four from China is recorded as a single U.S.-China collaboration*

Journal publication share

The chart shows the distribution of AI journal publications over the last 12 years, sorted by geographic region



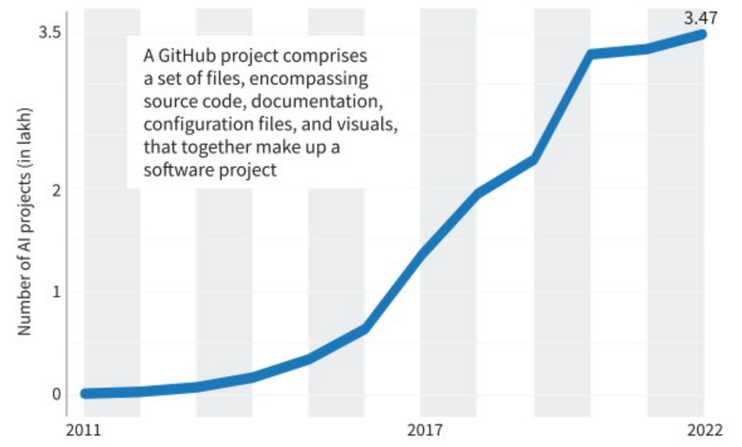
This year's AI Index includes India, acknowledging its rising significance in the AI landscape. However, China has consistently held the top position

Top ten institutions:

Since 2010, the institution with the highest overall AI paper output has been the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In fact all the top nine, out of the ten institutions, in terms of the number of AI publications released were from China, with Massachusetts Institute of Technology featuring last. The chart shows total AI publications released by each in 2021

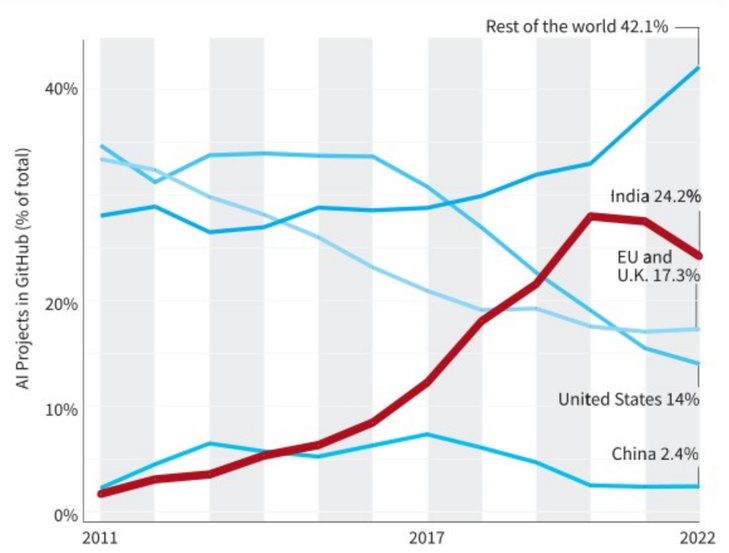
GitHub AI projects

Since 2011, there has been a consistent rise in the number of AI-related projects on GitHub, escalating from 1,536 projects in 2011 to 3,47,934 by 2022



India top contributor

In 2022, a significant portion of AI projects on GitHub, amounting to 24.2%, came from software developers in India. Following India, the European Union and the United Kingdom contributed 17.3%, while the United States was responsible for 14% AI projects



Citation: Nestor Maslej, Loredana Fattorini, Erik Brynjolfsson, John Etchemendy, Katrina Ligett, Terah Lyons, James Manyika, Helen Ngo, Juan Carlos Niebles, Vanessa Parli, Yoav Shoham, Russell Wald, Jack Clark and Raymond Perrault, "The AI Index 2023 Annual Report," AI Index Steering Committee, Institute for Human-Centered AI, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, April 2023. * Center for Security and Emerging Technology

Liberal writers continue to receive threat letters

The police have arrested a youth from Davangere, as the alleged letter writer. But the letters have continued unabated, the latest to writer B.L. Venu in Chitradurga earlier this week

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Over 10 liberal writers in Karnataka have been regularly receiving letters, threatening to kill them, by someone who signs off as "Sahishnu Hindu" for over a year now. They heaved a sigh of relief in May this year, when the police arrested a youth from Harihara, Davangere, as the alleged letter writer. But the threat letters have continued unabated, the latest to writer B.L. Venu in Chitradurga earlier this week.

While Mr. Venu has received three threat letters since June, Kum. Veerabhadrappa has received three letters, Banjagere Jayaprakash has received two letters, and Vasundhara Bhupati and B.T. Lalitha Nayak have received a letter each since June.

"The letters that I have received after the arrest of the alleged letter writer are also in the same handwriting as the previous ones. In a letter I received on July 22, the writer has made an appeal to the police to release Pradeep, arrested from Harihara in connection with the case," said Mr. Jayaprakash.

Writer Banjagere Jayaprakash has received two threat letters since June 2023.

Similar appeals to release the arrested person figure in letters written to other writers as well. "This has only deepened the mystery and we are surprised that police are not able to catch a letter writer," said Mr. Venu.

Special Probe

The threat letters began to arrive after 61 writers signed an open letter to then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai expressing concerns about "raising intolerance" in Karnataka in 2022, when the "communal campaign" starting with the Hijab row at its peak. Even as several writers reported getting these threat letters with the same content – dubbing them "anti-Hindu" and threatening to kill them – there was no coordinated effort to track down the letter writer. Following a report by *The Hindu* on July 11, 2022, the then Home Minister Araga Jnanendra appointed K. Santosh Babu, then SP, Ramanagara, as the nodal officer for the probe.

This probe led to the arrest of Pradeep, 28, a medical representative from Harihara in May 2023. The arrest followed several months-long surveillance of all the places from where these threat letters were posted earlier. "Pradeep is definitely of the Hindutva persuasion, but does not seem to be identified with any organisation," a senior official said. Pradeep is now out on bail, as the charges against him in several FIRs were all bailable. The special probe ended with his arrest.

However, the letters have not stopped. "We suspect that the letter writers are a group of people and not an individual. Appeals to release him in subsequent letters indicate an attempt to mislead us," a senior police official said. However, this doesn't explain how the handwriting in all the letters are the same, as multiple writers point out.

Meanwhile, Kum. Veerabhadrappa said he received a registered post from a person working in the judiciary in Tumakuru district. "What surprised me was the handwriting of this letter is the same as the threat letters I have received till date. I alerted the police and heard he was also questioned, but let go," he told *The Hindu*. Mr. Jayaprakash also said while all the letters he got were in A4 size papers, one particular letter he received in July this year, was in a paper of the size used in the judiciary.

Threat letters to writers since June 2023

Kum. Veerabhadrappa	3
Banjagere Jayaprakash	2
B.L. Venu	3
Vasundhara Bhupati	1

Police summon president of BBMP contractors' association

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Grounds police summoned K.T. Manjunath, president of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) contractors association and several others to question them regarding the complaint they had submitted before the governor, accusing Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar of demanding a commission to release the pending bills.

The police questioned the contractors on whether the signature in the petition submitted to the governor belonged to them and if they have willingly signed the petition.

The officials said that questioning of almost 50% of the contractors is done and their statements have been recorded while the remaining contractors who are signatories to the petition will be questioned soon.

A group of BBMP contractors, led by the association president, filed a petition to governor accusing Mr. Shivakumar of pressuring the officials not to release the bills despite completion of works, and sought necessary directions.

The governor's office forwarded the petition to the jurisdictional police for inquiry into the allegations.

Official postings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Consequent upon the appointment of the two State Civil Services officers of Karnataka Cadre into IAS, they have been given new postings. Venkatachalapathy R, has been appointed as Administrative Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bengaluru and Kantharaju P.S., has been appointed as CEO, ZP, Bengaluru Urban District with immediate effect.

KSRTC bags best brand employer award

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) won the 14th edition's 18th Asia's Best Brand Employer Award-2023, under the Organisation with Best innovative HR Practices category.

The World Sustainability Congress on Thursday, organised an award felicitation function in Singapore.

Wilber N.G, Country Manager, Association of International Certified Professional Accountants and Attorney Carina Lenore S. Bayon, Chief Environmental, Social and Governance Officer, Chief Compliance and Data Privacy Officer presented the prestigious award to Manjula Naik, Chief Accounts Officer cum Financial Adviser and Dr. Latha T.S, Board Secretary and Chief Public Relations Officer, on behalf of KSRTC.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr.K.N.Sudheer Praveen Kumar S/o Mr. Venkata Veera Raghava Rao** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **M/S: Housso Footings Rep By its Partners Sreenivas Reddy Yemme and Others** ; any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing portion of **Site No.55**, Sy. No.66/1, in the residential layout known as **"The Golden Wattle"** situated at **Kumbena Agrahara Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District,** now comes under jurisdiction of BBMP Bangalore, measuring to an extent of East to West, on the Northern Side 40 Feet and on the Southern Side 44 Feet, North to South, on the Eastern Side 30 Feet and on the Western side 30 Feet, in all measuring **1260 Square Feet** and bounded on: **East by - Road, West by - Private Property, North by - Road Site No.57, South by - Site No.56**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 9108784843

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sri. Harshvardhan Singh Solanki S/o. Sri. Prembahadur Solanki, and his wife Smt. Anjum Salim Shaikh have intend to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owner Sri. B. Bharath, S/o. Sri. Ananda Naidu .B, Residing at No. 11, 2nd Floor, 6th Cross, Surabi Nagar, J. P. Nagar 8th Phase, Jambu Savari Dinne, Bangalore.

If any persons having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

Residential property bearing BDA Plot No.123, measuring East to West 6. 00 Mters, and North to South 9.00 Mters, in total measuring 54.00 Sq. Mters. Together with residential building constructed thereon situated at 4th Block, Anjanapura Layout, Bangalore and bounded on :- East By : Site No 124, West By : Site No. 122, North By : Site No. 128, South By : Road.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY,
ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR,
Advocates, # 96, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
Bangalore, Date : 17-08-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **M/s. R.Kuppuswamy, Represented by its Jt. Managing Partner, Mr. K Padmarajan,** Having registered office at No.44-45, 2nd Floor, Leo Complex, Residency Road, Bangalore 560025, is the absolute owner of the Property bearing property in **Survey No: 246 and 247 of Samethanahalli Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District.**

Item No.1

Industrially converted undeveloped land measuring an extent of 2 Acres (including 1 Guntas Kharab) comprised in **Sy No.246 (**Old Sy No.36) of Samethanahalli Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on the:

East By : Sy No.247 of Samethanahalli Village,
West by : Sy No.245 of Samethanahalli Village,
North by : Road followed by land in Sy No 36 of Samathenahalli ,
South by : Sy No.270 of Samethanahalli Village.

Item No.2

Industrially converted land measuring an extent of 2 Acres comprised in **Sy No.247** (Old Sy No.36) of Samathenahalli Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District Bangalore and bounded on the

East By : Sy No.248 of Samethanahalli Village,
West by : Sy No.246 of Samethanahalli Village,
North by : Sy No.36 and Road,
South by : Sy No.270 of Samethanahalli Village.

Above said Two items have been purchased through sale deeds by our client

My client has lost below mentioned original title deeds pertaining to Item No 1 and 2 while They were traveling from Hosakote to Bangalore.

Sy No. 246

i. Sale Deed dated 10/04/1995 Doc No:141/1995-96
ii. Sale Deed dated 30/12/1974 Doc No:4943/1974-75, iii. Sale Deed dated 18/05/1963 Doc No:947/1963-64, iv. Sale Deed dated 22/01/1958 Doc No:3622/1957-58

Sy No.247

i. Sale Deed dated 18/02/1975 Doc No:5760/1974-75
ii. Sale Deed dated 10/03/1964 Doc No:4142/1963-64, iii. Sale Deed dated 19/08/1963 Doc No:2019/1963-64

and the same are not traceable. We hereby calle upon the public that, if anyone finds the above said document, kindly hande over to undersigned immediately and they may be suitably awarded, and also we further bring to the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the schedule property on the basis of the above said Original documents in respect of the Schedule property, same will be an offense and they are liable to be punished under the Criminal Act. Therefore, we call upon the general public not to deal with the schedule property on the basis of above said Original deeds which now stands in the names of our Client.

Any transaction held in respect of the said property without the knowledge of my client shall be void and my client shall not hold any responsibility over transaction held in respect the said property.

If any of the general public has found the said documents, same shall be handed over to the undersigned to the below mentioned address within **7days** from the date of publication.

Mr. Dayananda.G.M,
Advocates and Legal consultants,
KAR 2472/2003, No. 49, 1st Floor,
Opp. 12th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road,
Bangalore-560 002. M : +91 9900577458

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general public that our clients **Mr. Jabez Ravi, S/o late S. J. Rathnam,** and **Mrs. Kathleen Priya Jabez W/o Sri Jabez Ravi** r/at no.23, memorial church street, Bharathi Nagar 560001. Are the absolute owners of the below mentioned schedule properties.

Our client who are the absolute owner of the property mentioned below and had obtained an permanent injunction order against Sri, Bache Gowda and Mr. Muniswamy Reddy of Hormavu Village Bangalore in OS no 922/2019, and our clients came to know that the above mentioned persons are illegally representating themselves has the sole owner of the schedule property which is totally illegal and the same has been decreed in favour of our client before the Hon'ble court.

It is come to our clients knowledge that the above mentioned persons along with some people have made forged documents and planning to sell the property colluding with bank officials and it is here by informed and caution the public at large by this public caution notice that please do not enter into any transactions, agreements, mortgage, understandings in whatsoever of nature in respect of the schedule property is not binding on our clients. Despite this public notice any person/ body/ entity had or has entered into any transaction whatsoever of nature shall not be binding on our client and on the schedule property and the same will be treated has illegal and shall be doing so at their own risk as to the cost and consequence.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant immovable property bearing, site No 32, house list Khatha no.87/3/31-32, new katha no 395, formed out of converted sy no 87/3 converted for residential purpose situated at Prakruthi Town Ship 3rd Cross Horamavu Agara Village K R Puram, Hobli Bangalore East Taluk East to West;30 feet and north to south;40 feet totally measuring 1200 sq feet, now comes under limits of BBMP bounded by east by site no 31 west by site no 33 north by private property south by road and, site No 31 house list Khatha no.87/3/31-32, new katha no 395, formed out of converted sy no 87/3 converted for residential purpose situated at Prakruthi Town Ship 3rd Cross Horamavu Agara Village, Kr Puram, Hobli Bangalore East Taluk East to West;05 feet and north to south;40 feet totally measuring 200 sq feet, now comes under limits of BBMP bounded, east by remaining part of site no 31, west by site no 32 north by private property south by road together with all appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded.

Shaji .T Verghese, Advocate
Legal I No. 45. Millers Road
Vasanthnagar, Bangalore
Mb.No. 9845154053

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my client **Mr. PRAFULLA M HIREMATH** S/o Sri.Mokshappa Hiremath, intends to purchase the immovable Property more fully described & mentioned in the schedule hereunder & hereinafter referred to as **SCHEDULE PROPERTY,** from its present owner, **Smt. A.ANUSUYA** W/o Late Sri.Annayappa, R/at DIBBURU Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore, who has acquired the rightful, lawful title and right to the Schedule Property through Partition Deed, vide registered Document No.HSR-1-00575/2021-22, Book 1, CD No.HSRD826 dated 13/08/2021 registered in the Sub-Registrar office, Hesaraghatta, Bengaluru, followed by Release Deed, vide registered Document No.BYP-1-05040/2022-23, Book 1, CD No.BYPD1185 dated 12/08/2022 registered in the Sub-Registrar office, Byatarayanpura, Bengaluru and in this regard my client has entered into Agreement of Sale dated 04/08/2023 to purchase the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential vacant site bearing **No. 02** in the CM Layout formed in Land bearing Converted New Survey No.105/8 (Old Survey Nos.105/3 then 105/6), {which is measuring 0.20 Guntas, having property No.41/105/8, 11B-Khatha / PID No. 150200202000120360, converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purpose vide Conversion order No.408160, dated 07/11/2022, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru} situated at **DIBBUR village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk (Earlier Bengaluru North Taluk), Bengaluru,** under the jurisdiction of Singanayakanahalli Grama Panchayathi, Yelahanka, Bengaluru measuring **East to West 50 feet, North to South 30 feet,** in all totally measuring **1500 Square feet** and bounded on;

East by : Private property
West by : Road
North by : Site No. 1
South by : Site No. 3

Any person/s having any claim, right, or interest in or to the schedule property or any part thereof through any instrument/s or otherwise is required to forward their claims to the Schedule Property to the undersigned, along with relevant Documentary Proof/Supporting Documents thereof **within 15 (Fifteen) days** from this date of publication. In the absence of any claims or objections within the above said period, it shall be deemed that, there are no such claims or objections. If there are any claims or objections which have not been made within the said period, it shall be deemed to have been waived off by such persons and a valid and binding conveyance will be executed and registered in my client's favour without any further reference in this regard.

ADVOCATE - NAGARJUN N,
248, 2nd Floor, 100 Feet Main Road,
Near Horamavu Signal, HRBR Layout,
Kalyan Nagar, Bengaluru-560043.
Mobile: 09986301252

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-1 AT BANGALORE
O.A. No. 148 of 2022

M/s. CANARA BANK
CHANDRA LAYOUT BR, B'LORE-560 040.
Rep. by its Chief Manager **V/s. ....APPLICANT**
Sri. D. ANANTH NARAYANA
....DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DRT (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

Sri. D. ANANTH NARAYANA
Aged about 50 Yrs, S/o. Sri. Damodharan **Proprietor M/s. SAMPADA PROCESS @** # 91/4, 13th Cross, Kote Beedi Road, Kengeri, Bangalore-560060. **Also @** # 25/A, 9th Cross, KES Convent, Magadi Road, Bangalore-560 023.

WHEREAS the above named Applicant has instituted an application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against the defendant for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 29,27,938/=** alongwith court costs, and current & future interest and other reliefs from the date of application till date of recovery. You are hereby required **to show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on 10th day of Nov. 2023 at 10:30 a.m.** either in person or duly instructed pleader as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 30th day of July 2023 at Bangalore.

Sd/- (REGISTRAR)
Debts Recovery Tribunal-1 for Karnataka
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House,
Raj Bhavan Road, Bangalore-560 001.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my Client **Mr. SHAIK ABDUL ALEEM, S/o. Mr. Shaik Habeebur Rahaman,** Residing at No.16/46, Thimmasamudram, Cuddapah,Andhra Pradesh-516130, **propose to PURCHASE below mentioned Schedule property Presently** Property Owner **Mr.SYED SHABBIR, Son of Late. Syed Mustafa,** Residing at No.29-2, 1st Main Road, Bellahalli, Jakkur Post, Bangalore-560064, All I am the absolute Owner of this below mentioned Property, and I am the owner Acquired the rights, title of the schedule Property, if any Persons have any kind of objecting over Schedule Property for purchase may lodge their objections with the undersigned along with supporting documents within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice failing which my clients shall presume that there is no objection and proceed with the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE

Immovable Residential Property Bearing **Site No's. 5,6,11 & 12,** Situated at **BELLAHALLI VILLAGE, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore,** Presently coming under the Jurisdiction of the BBMP, New BBMP Ward No.5, Bangalore,

EAST BY: Private Property, WEST BY: 20 feet Road, NORTH BY: 20 feet ROAD, SOUTH BY: Private Property. MEASURING: EAST to WEST: 80-00 (Eighty Feet) and NORTH to SOUTH: 50-00 (Fifty Feet) In all Totally Measuring : 4000 Square Feet.

ROSHAN ZAMEER. BA,LL.B.
ADVOCATE
NOOR CHAND ASSOCIATES,
Office No. 2&3, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Main Road, Beside Savi Sagar Hotel, Govindpura Arabic College Post, Bangalore-560045
M : 9886831826,

PUBLIC NOTICE

That our Client, intends to purchase the immovable 'Schedule Property' mentioned below from **1. Mrs. M.R.Rajeshwari, 2. Mrs. M.R.Anuradha, 3. Mrs. M.R.Shambhavi,** all are legal heirs of late M.B.Ramaradhya & Late Nagarathna.B.M, Residing at No.105, 13th Cross, 20th Main, J.P.Nagar, 2nd Phase, Bangalore – 560078 being the owners of the Schedule Property.

Any persons, financial institutions having any sort of claim / rights / interest / charge on the below said property or any objections for the said sale of the property may file their objections in writing along with supporting documents, addressed to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be construed that there are no claims of any sort over the below said property and our client shall be advised to proceed with the proposed transaction. Any claims thereafter shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF the property bearing **BDA Site No.105,** having BBMP PID No.57-105-105,measuring East to West: 12.19 Meters, and North to South: 18.59 Meters, totally measuring 226.61 Square Meters, in the layout formed by Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore, situated at Sarakki 2nd Phase (J.P.Nagar), Bangalore, along with building consisting thereon and property coming under BBMP jurisdiction only and bounded on the;

East by : Site No.104,
West by : Site No.106,
North by : Site No.110,
South by : Road.

LAW PARK ASSOCIATES
JUSTICE ON YOUR SIDE

Sd/- S.M. Manjunatha, Advocate
LAW PARK ASSOCIATES,
6th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560 102.
helpdesk@lawpark.in
+91 80 41715959, +91 98456 65379

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

Celebrating The Legacy Of

AMBAREESH VEDANTAM MURTY

1972 - 2023

Ambareesh has departed on his next grand adventure, taking with him the laughter, wisdom, and boundless spirit of a life short, but well-lived. In the echoing words of his favourite author, 'No one is actually dead until the ripples they cause in the world die away'. Please come say goodbye.

Prayer Meeting

19 Aug '23 | 3PM-5PM
Community Hall, Ground Floor, Richmond, Cliff Ave,
Hiranandani Gardens, Powai, Mumbai- 400076

Fondly Remembered By

Anupama Vedantam, Madhav Vedantam, Shambhavi Vedantam Murty, Kashi Ram Sharma, Ashish Shah and Pepperfry Family.

REMEMBRANCE

RESPECTFUL HOMAGE
TO IMMORTAL HUMANITARIAN
Punyasmarane : 18-8-2023

Late Sri C.M. NAGARAJ
Born: 9-3-1942 I Expired: 18-8-2008
Founder Chairman,
East West and S.V.N.
Institutions, Bengaluru.
Former Mayor, BBMP,
a great leader, Pioneer,
Visionary, Educationalist,
Philanthropist & Inspirer.

We earnestly pray God to rest his soul in peace.
Family members, Management, Principals, Staff Members, Students, Relatives & Friends.

SVM-23404-ENG

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826 **Hubballi:** 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Rate for Karnataka:
Minimum: Rs. 320/- for 2 lines. Extra line: Rs. 160/-
B/W Display: Rs. 95/- per sq.cm; Colour Display: Rs. 105/- per sq.cm
For Placing Advertisements Online log on to www.thehinduads.com

DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Different sides: A Youtube screengrab of the *Made in Heaven* trailer.

How *Made in Heaven* disturbs conventional ideas about marriages

The institutions of marriage in India are unwelcoming towards modern reforms and unhesitatingly prioritise social and class statuses over the idea of love. *Made in Heaven* merits appreciation for trying to reflect upon marriage institutions through a subaltern perspective

Harish S. Wankhede

Love is the ultimate emotion and marriage is seen as its fulfillment. However, most social practices are woven around everyday vices of fear, competition and prejudice that disallows love to function freely. We display our inhibitions and anxiety when we see a gay couple holding hands in public or when we witness an unmarried mother. Popular TV shows are often shy to engage with the emotional conundrums of queer groups, Dalits and other vulnerable sections and overtly celebrate heterosexual relations/marriages among social and class elites. The new season of *Made in Heaven* challenges this convention as it sensitively introduces the sexual and emotional quests of the people that are often considered as outsiders or queer by mainstream society.

Unconventional unions

The first season of *Made in Heaven*, was appreciated for its beautifully woven storylines, courageous narratives and good performances. The second season repeats the set standards and adds more political correctness to the narratives. It presents cases that are often considered as unconventional (same sex marriage), exposes the patriarchal hegemony that governs the institution of marriage and narrates how vulnerable groups (like the Dalit person in an inter-caste marriage) are struggling to make marriage more humane and egalitarian.

In western scholarship, marriage is not treated as a divine bond but examined as a contract between two equals. Indian marriages in contrast are often about the union of families, religious rituals and grand opulence. Interestingly, in *Made in Heaven*, the marriage ceremonies are not only about the expensive attire, group dances and exquisite venues but also display the conflicting situations in which the bride and groom are strained and struggling. Further, we see controversial cases like sex change and bigamy that are curated with extreme caution and compassion, endorsing the claims made by the victimised communities.

The first episode 'Beauty and the Beast' discusses the infatuation of Indians for the white skinned bride and how even the women are active participants in justifying such objectification of human bodies. In another part, we see the harassment and abuse of the bride, with the woman appearing emotionally vulnerable, failing to resist the man-made patriarchal order. The episode 'Warrior Princess' displays the overt powerlessness and humiliation of Shehnaz (Dia Mirza) in an elite Muslim family, to escape which, she attempts suicide.

Agency of women

Women's powerlessness and dependency is the product of a patriarchal social structure, against which she has little agency and power. The second season shows us stories of intimate relations where the male characters are sometimes sordid manipulators and emotionally corrupt. They are unapologetic about their social and class privileges and therefore, 'love' appears like a forbidden expression. What makes this season deeply radical then, is the struggle of vulnerable female characters to find love and respect in their marriages.

In other episodes, we witness stories that showcase women's heroism and their powerful agency to disturb conventional patriarchal norms. For example, the protagonist, Tara (Sobhita Dhulipala) is dynamic, but in a complex way. She is a deeply emotional person, but she also wants professional success and class mobility. To achieve it, she is even capable of adopting cunning methods. While such Machiavellian prudence brings flaws to her character, it is justifiable as she is contesting more powerful and aggressive adversaries. Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar showed their creative masterclass by presenting a woman hero that is free, intellectual, aspirational and readily flaunts her power. Similarly, in the episode 'Love Story', Leila Shirazi (Elnaaz Norouzi) is a Bollywood actress who displays typical feminine stereotypes in the beginning. However, towards the end she showcases her rational agency to protect her professional life and self-respect against the groom (Pulkit Sharma). Such female characters disturb the conventional portrayals of women as docile, beautiful, and dependent on male mercies.

Dalit narratives

Endorsing this philosophical texture of the series, Neeraj Ghywan's story 'the Heart Skipped a Beat' is an impressive addition. We see Pallavi Manke (Radhika Apte) as a proud Dalit professor, working in an Ivy league university with no hesitation to flag her 'ex-untouchable' identity. Though she is marrying a sensitive and progressive Indian-American lawyer, she faces social burdens and anxieties when she offers to add a Buddhist ritual to commemorate her marriage. Ghaywan creatively contrasts Manke's story with the parallel tale of Sheetal Menon's (Vidya Iyer) marriage to showcase the privileges and power of the Brahmin identity. Menon is a divorcee with a ten year old son; however, we see no social hurdles or psychological anxieties as she confidently executes her plans for a second marriage. The Menon-Manke binary beautifully showcases the complex intersectionality of caste, class and gender in contemporary times and how middle-class privileges and power are often unavailable to Dalits.

The conventional institutions of marriage in India are unwelcoming towards modern reforms and unhesitatingly prioritise social and class statuses over the idea of love. Marriages operate under patriarchal guidelines and conservative cultural values. Women, queer groups and the socially marginalised communities bear the brutal burden of such an arrangement. *Made in Heaven* provides an assertive critical voice to the victim groups and allows them to act with heroic beliefs.

The episodes are crafted meticulously and retain the texture of 'good intellectual drama'. On the flip side, the narratives often slip into certain elitist cliches or fall for unnecessary repetition of scenes showcasing sexual intimacy and drug abuse. However, this is a minor criticism as the merit of this series lies in its courage to reflect upon marriage institutions through a subaltern perspective, allowing vulnerable communities to take centre stage.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Some significant events occurred on August 17. Here is a quiz on observances, birthdays and everything else that happened on the day

Abhinaya. K

QUESTION 1
This planet has two moons, both discovered by American astronomer Asaph Hall. One was discovered on August 12 and the other on August 18 in 1977. Identify the planet and the moon discovered on this day.

QUESTION 2
This renowned psychologist, who passed away on this day, was known for conducting pioneering work in experimental psychology, pushing behaviourism, reinforcement and theory of learning. He is considered the father of operant conditioning. Identify the man.

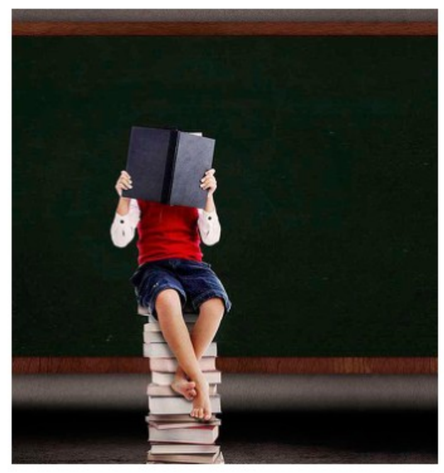
QUESTION 3
On this day, the 19th amendment of the U.S. Constitution was ratified. The move gave women the right to vote. Which state became the 36th to approve it, allowing the ratification of the amendment?

QUESTION 4
India's first IIT was inaugurated on this day in 1951. Who inaugurated it and where is it located?

QUESTION 5
This controversial novel written by a Russian American was published on this day in 1985. It has been adapted as a film by noted director Stanley Kubrick. Name the book.

Visual question:
This freedom fighter was born on this day in 1900. She was the first woman president of the United Nations General Assembly. Name her. HINDU PHOTO ARCHIVES

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This dystopian novel was first published in 1949. **Ans: *1984***
2. This 1953 novel presents an American society where books have been outlawed and "firemen" burn any that are found. **Ans: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury**
3. This dystopian novel is set in a place known as the Republic of Gilead. This is the name of its central character. **Ans: *The Handmaid's Tale;* Offred**
4. In this novel, it's discovered that teenage girls can inflict harm by shooting electricity from their fingertips. **Ans: *The Power* by Naomi Alderman**
5. This 1962 British science fiction novel depicts a future in which the surface of planet Earth is uninhabitable. **Ans: *The Drowned World***
6. In this novel an unknown force causes people to collectively 'forget'. **Ans: *The Memory Police,* originally written in Japanese.**
Visual: Name the book and the masks. **Ans: *V for Vendetta*, Guy Fawkes mask**
Early Birds: Jagrati Shukla| M. Suresh Kumar| Varghese Joseph| Adya Upasana Routray| Simmi Bhandari



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir, Mr. S. Ramachandran, 12, Santhinagar, 3 Street, Adambakkam, Madras, wants to know why the title Ms. is used before Benazir Bhutto who is married."

"When a woman uses Ms. before her name, she is not interested in telling you whether she is married or not. 'Mr.' doesn't tell you whether a man is married or not. Ms. is used in a similar way. Women want to be recognised as individuals rather than in terms of their relationship with a man. 'Ms.' is pronounced 'maz'. The 'a' is pronounced like the 'a' in India."

"Ms. R. Vidya, C 37, HAL Post, Hyderabad, wants to know whether it is correct to say, 'What o'clock is it?"

"No. You don't use 'a' clock' in questions. We usually say, 'What time is it?' or 'What is the time?'"

"Sir, Mr R. Sundar, 177, Northveli Street, Madurai, wants to know the meaning of the word 'retiree'."

" 'Retiree' is 'a person who has retired from his profession, vocation'. It is used chiefly in America."

"Sir, Mr. S. Vadamelaimuthu, 51, Habibullah Street, Triplicane, Madras, wants to know the meaning of 'roil'."

" 'Roil' means 'to make (water etc.) muddy by stirring'. Figuratively, it means 'to perturb, annoy'.

He roiled the water with his feet.

His imagination is disturbed, his passions all roiled.

She was roiled by his refusal to talk to her.

Don't let this roil you. Be calm."

"Sir, Mr. M. Kannan, 14, Railway Colony, Srikeli, wants to know the difference between 'blunder' and 'bloomer'."

"Both mean the same. 'Bloomer' is slang for 'blunder'. 'Bloomer' is from 'blooming error". 'Blooming' is a euphemism for 'bloody'. He is a 'blooming idiot' means he is a bloody idiot. A blunder or bloomer is a stupid mistake or a mistake made out of ignorance."

"What is euphemism, sir?"

" 'Euphemism' is 'substitution of mild or vagus or round about expression for harsh or blunt or direct one'. 'He reached the Lotus feet of the Lord' is a euphemism for 'He died'. 'Developing countries' is a euphemism for 'poor countries'. 'Power-room', 'cloakroom', 'bathroom', 'restroom' are euphemisms for 'lavatory'. Euphemimos in Greek means 'speaking well'. When you are euphemistic, you say unpleasant things in a polished way. 'Eupha' rhymes with 'goofy' and 'mism' rhymes with 'prism'. So it is 'youfimizem'.

"Sir, Ms. T. Vaidohi, Dr. Meikota Memorial Women's College wants to know the pronunciation of 'loathe'."

" 'Oa' is pronounced like the 'oa' in 'boat', 'foam'; 'th' is pronounced like the 'the' in 'they', 'that'. The final 'e' is silent."

"What is the meaning of 'loathe', sir?

" 'Loathe' means 'utter disgust', 'intense hatred'. It is a very strong word.

I loathe him. I loathe the entire family."

Published in The Hindu on January 24, 1989.

Word of the day

Asunder:
into parts or pieces; widely separated especially in space

Synonym: apart

Usage: *Her life was torn asunder by his death.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/asunderpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əˈsʌndə/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Lokayukta raids 48 locations across Karnataka; disproportionate assets worth crores of rupees seized

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major crackdown, as many as 200 Lokayukta officials on Thursday, carried out simultaneous raids across 48 different locations across State and seized movable and immovable properties worth crores which is disproportionate to their known source of income.

According to officials, several teams were formed to crack down on corrupt government officials to carry out raids across different districts, including in Mysuru, Bidar, Dharwad, Kodagu, Raichur, Davangere, Chitradurga and Tumakuru. The Lokayukta officials also raided the Revenue Inspector of Mahadevapura Division, a police constable, Joint Directorate of Tumakuru Urban Development Authority and Minor Irrigation Department.

Among the four Disproportionate Assets (DA) cases registered against four officials, including S. Nataraj, Revenue Officer, BBMP, Mahadevapura zone, the officials searched four locations and seized a total of ₹4.9 crore worth movable and immovable assets. This according to the officials is 391% disproportionate to his known source of income.

Another team of officials searched 12 locations belonging to Shivaraju, Tahsildar grade-2, Revenue Department in MS Building and confiscated properties worth ₹ 4.15 crore. The seized properties include ₹ 3.5 crore worth immovable and ₹65 lakh worth movable properties .

The officials also raided six locations belonging to Lakshmipathi, Gram Panchayat member, Chikkajala Gram Panchayath, Yelahanka and seized properties worth ₹3.9 crore.

This includes ₹ 2.8 crore worth immovable properties and movable properties worth ₹1.15 crore, which according to the official estimation is 270% disproportionate to his known source of income.

The officials also raided the residence of Bhuvanahalli Nagaraj, head of grievance redressal forum, Zilla panchayath office in Tumakuru and searches were under way.

Other DA cases registered against the officials include S. Bharathi, Executive Engineer, C-lake division, BBMP and K. Mahesh, Assistant Engineer, Minor irrigation department, Holalkere Taluk, Chitradurga district. The other officials raided were K.N. Nagaraju, Joint Director, Tumakuru city Development Authority (total value seized worth ₹ 3.4 crore), Nanjundagowda, Additional DC, Revenue department, Madikeri, Kodagu (seized properties worth ₹ 3.5 crore), K.K. Raghupathi, Senior Engineer, Harangi Projects, Kushalnagar, Kodagu (property worth ₹ 3.6 crore seized), S. Satish , Range Forest Officer, Cheenagiri zone, Bhadravathi(properties worth ₹ 1.6 crore seized), Manjunatha, Manager, NIrmithi Kendra, Koppal (properties worth ₹2.7 crore seized), Vijayakumar, Police Constable, Chitraguppa station, Bidar (properties worth ₹ 1.8 crore seized).

Searches were also on at locations of Santosha Sharanappa Anisetty, Revenue Inspector , Belagavi Mahanagara Palike and Shivananda Manakar, Police Constable, Dharwad town station, an official release said.

NH near Dharwad reopened for vehicular traffic

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Belagavi Police closed the Pune-Bengaluru National Highway on Wednesday night, after a gas tanker met with an accident near Dharwad. The NH was opened for traffic on Thursday morning.

A team of technical experts from the Public Works Department, NHAI, police and Fire and Emergency Services worked to remove the affected vehicle from the road on Thursday.

The road remained closed for nearly 14 hours on Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

The tanker got stuck when it was trying to cross the national highway using the underpass in Belur village on the outskirts of Dharwad. Since officials suspected that there could be a possibility of gas leakage from the top of the tanker, vehicles were stopped at a distance of around two kilometres from the spot, on both sides. Police officers directed traffic through alternative routes.

"The NH was cleared at 10.50 a.m. Smooth movement of traffic resumed in the next few minutes," SP Sanjiv Patil said.

तमिलनाडु केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
(संसद द्वारा पारित अधिनियम 2009 के अंतर्गत स्थापित)
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF TAMIL NADU
(Established by an Act of Parliament, 2009)
नीलक्कुड़ी /Neelakudi
तिरुवारूर/Thiruvarur- 610 005
E mail: recruitment@cutn.ac.in

RECRUITMENT ON STATUTORY POST

Advertisement No : CUTN/NT/02/2023

Central University of Tamil Nadu invites applications for the post of Controller of Examinations (Direct/ Deputation). For further details, interested candidates may visit www.cutn.ac.in.

Application link: cutnnt.samarth.edu.in

Place: Thiruvarur
Date : 18.08.2023

Sd/-
Registrar

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, AUG. 18		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:39
RISE	07:30	SET 20:05
SATURDAY, AUG. 19		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:39
RISE	08:15	SET 20:39
SUNDAY, AUG. 20		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:38
RISE	09:00	SET 21:13

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	32	21
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
31°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm is likely.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.Chances of light rain and thundershower.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2023
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

Protest march in Kalaburagi as man taken into custody by police dies

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Uday Kumar Paradi, a resident of Sharana Sirasagi, who was taken into custody by Ashok Nagar Police here on Thursday morning, died at a hospital.

His relatives and friends took out a protest march from the District and General Hospital attached to Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences to the office of the DC saying that he was tortured and murdered by the police. "The police took Uday Kumar Paradi into custody for inquiry in a theft case on Thursday morning. By 1 p.m., the police called his relatives and told that he has been admitted to the District Hospital as he developed health issues. When we went there, he was dead," a resident of Sharana Sirasagi said and added that the injuries on the body suggested torture and murder by the police. When contacted, Police Commissioner R. Chetan said the suspect developed health complications on the way to the police station and was admitted to hospital.

4 Days of Biggest Furniture Shopping Festival! OPENS TODAY
FURNITURE FAIR™
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
TIMING : 10.00 AM TO 8.30 PM

18 | 19 | 20 | 21 AUGUST 2023
TRIPURA VASINI PALACE GROUNDS
NEAR MEKHRI CIRCLE, BENGALURU
LIVING ROOM • DINING SET • BEDROOM • OUTDOOR FURNITURE • LEATHER SOFAS • BRASS & ARTIFACTS • HOME DECOR • RECLINER SOFA SETS • CARPET & CUSHIONS • MATTRESSES • CURTAINS • WATER FOUNTAINS & MUCH MORE...

www.iadsandevents.com
exhibitions_iadsnevents
iadsnevents
ENTRY FREE
+91 93425 77908
AN EVENT BY
iads & events
COMPLETE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

SOTC INVITES YOU TO A TRULY SPECTACULAR CELEBRATION
Disneyland Paris 30
30TH ANNIVERSARY
GRAND FINALE
SHINING ON UNTIL 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

©Disney
Our 30th Anniversary Grand Finale and its extraordinary celebrations such as *Disney D-Light* will shine on until 30th September. Prepare for more magic and more epicness with returning beloved and ground breaking new shows* that will have you dreaming even bigger, laughing even louder and smiling even wider. So plan for something grand!
Book & Get 10% Off on Customised Holidays
5-Day
Passionate Paris with Disneyland®Paris
Paris • Disneyland
₹ 1 16 400.00
6-Day
Pristine Paris with Disneyland®Paris
Paris • Disneyland
₹ 1 17 750.00
Includes Accommodation, Sightseeing and Meals as per itinerary.
Call: 1800 209 3344
sotc.in
Video Chat with us!
Just Scan & Connect
LIVE 10 am to 6 pm
SOTC
For Holidays.
HOLIDAYS • INCENTIVE TRAVEL • BUSINESS TRAVEL • VISAS • TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES
St Marks Road 9167203094 | Malleshwaram 9167375824 | Jayanagar 9167242997 | Basaveshwarnagar 9167244548 | Bel Road 8291273114 | Koramangala 9167253383 | Indra Nagar 8879933803 | HSR Layout 9167389194
MANGALURU: 8879852795 | MYSURU 8879853189 Holiday world Agents: Hubbli: 9167685459, 9619697310. Belgaum: 9167696108
Become our franchisee, email: Franchisee@sotc.in
Conditions apply. Taxes as applicable. ROE is calculated at 1 EUR = INR 92.00 and will vary on the date of payment. SOTC utilises the services of various third party service providers to deliver specific services in the products/tours.

ENJOY RAINS WITH EXOTIC THAI SHOPPING & SPA
OPENS TODAY
10.00 AM TO 8.30 PM
THAILAND SHOPPING FESTIVAL

INTERNATIONAL STALLS FROM
THAILAND AFGHANISTAN KOREA BANGLADESH
Spa Items • Herbal Balms • Wooden Kitchen Accessories • Spa Oils • Jewellery • Purses • Lifestyle Products • Handbags • Perfumes • Woman's Accessories • Children's Toys • Artificial Flowers • Kids Clothes • Women Wear • Handicrafts & Much More..
18 | 19 | 20 | 21 AUGUST 2023
TRIPURA VASINI PALACE GROUNDS
NEAR MEKHRI CIRCLE, BENGALURU

ALL MAJOR CREDIT / DEBIT CARD ACCEPTED | +91 93425 77908 | ENTRY FREE

People of Kavadigara Hatti in Chitradurga collecting water from a tanker. Seen in the background is an overhead tank, whose water was found to be unfit for consumption. SATHISH G.T.

How safe is drinking water

Contamination of drinking water has led to at least 12 deaths and left scores ill in districts across Karnataka this year. This is despite claims of success of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). **Sharath S. Srivatsa, Kumar Buradikatti, and Sathish G.T.** take an overview of the situation in the affected localities, some under JJM coverage, some catered to by the municipality, and some left to fend for themselves

Vimalamma's only son Raghu left Kavadigara Hatti in Chitradurga district in central Karnataka on July 31 after having lunch with the family. He worked in a private firm in Bengaluru, where he looked after the delivery of home appliances. Within hours of reaching Bengaluru, the 26-year-old developed diarrhoea and vomiting.

Distant relatives, who stay in the same locality, took him to a clinic, but his condition did not improve. His worried mother called up the relatives and asked them to bring him back to Chitradurga so that she could admit him to a hospital there. A day later, it was his body that reached her.

"He gave up studies after class VII and started earning for the family," says an inconsolable Vimalamma, who lost her husband Thippeswamy in an accident a year ago.

Days after Raghu's death, her daughter Ashwini, who was nine months pregnant, had a stillbirth. Ashwini and her brother are among the residents of Dalit Colony who fell ill after consuming contaminated water in Kavadigara Hatti, in ward 17 of Chitradurga City Municipal Council. The incident claimed five lives. Up to 232 reported sick until August 7.

Water-related deaths in Karnataka

From the beginning of 2023, contamination of drinking water has led to at least 12 deaths and left scores ill in districts across Karnataka. Coming at a time when the ambitious Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is being implemented with the aim of providing safe drinking water in rural areas to every household that lacks a tap connection, the contamination in a municipal area covered under the water supply already raises concerns about the safety of the drinking water supplied.

Residents of Kavadigara Hatti in Chitradurga stage a protest demanding supply of clean drinking water. SATHISH G.T.

The fatalities led Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to warn officials of stringent action, and in several instances, cases have been booked against officials. In a majority of these cases, officials have been accused of being negligent in their approach.

Incidents of contaminated water supply have been reported in areas not covered under JJM, those already covered under JJM, and in municipal areas where water supply is supposed to be regulated, exposing the fault lines in safe drinking water schemes across all categories in Karnataka.

Though more than 20,000 reverse osmosis (RO) plants have been installed across Karnataka, mostly in places where water is found not potable, the infrastructure is grossly inadequate to meet the demands of the population, officials say.

After the death of seven people in the municipal area of Raichur city in June 2022, owing to the consumption of contaminated water, another three died, and 30 people fell sick after consuming contaminated water at Anpur village in Gurmitkal taluk of Yadgir district on February 15 this year. The work under JJM for supplying drinking water to households through taps was yet to be completed when the incident took place.

On May 25, a three-year-old boy died, and another 30 people fell ill after drinking contaminated water at Rekalmaradi village in Devadurga taluk of Raichur district. The JJM covered the entire village, with tap water connections to all 82 households. Within a few days, more than 25 people fell sick at Gorebal village in Lingasugur taluk in Raichur on May 29.

> Tap water is still a mirage in a number of homes in north Karnataka, as water is not available either because borewells have failed or there is simply no water source.
>
> **HAFIZ**
> social activist

People of Rekalmardi village in Deodurg taluk of Raichur district who fell sick after consuming contaminated water admitted to the RIMS in May this year. SANTOSH SAGAR

These incidents were followed by three deaths in Koppal district. On June 5, two people, including a nine-month-old, died at Basarihal village in Kanakagiri taluk. All the 423 households in the villages get tap water under JJM. On June 8, a 10-year-old girl died of the same cause at Bijakal village in Kushtagi taluk.

In the first week of July, two monkeys were found dead in an overhead tank at Khanapur village in Devadurga taluk of Raichur district, and people who consumed water from the tank fell ill.

At Nagasamudra in Molakalamur taluk in Chitradurga district, 60 fell ill on July 13. The JJM, launched with the intention of providing 55 litres of potable water for every individual, still has pipelines to be laid in Nagasamudra. "There was leakage in pipelines, which could be the reason for contamination," said a RDPR official.

In the case of Baridabad in Bidar district, where as many as 21 people fell sick after drinking polluted water in the last week of July, the pipelines had been damaged during drain repair work, and the drain water had entered the drinking water pipes.

The biggest tragedy this year has been the one at Kavadigara Hatti. While the biological analysis of water that was supplied from an overhead tank confirmed that it was unfit for consumption, the laboratory tests on stool samples collected from the patients suggested cholera. However, the source of contamination is yet to be identified.

The true tragedy is that beyond the deaths, the government issues notices to the officials concerned and suspends lower-level staff for negligence, with no consequences for department heads. Kalyana Karnataka region, comprising seven northeastern districts of the State, is one of the most backward areas. However, repeated occurrences of similar incidents demonstrate poor action on the ground to arrest preventable tragedies.

All the categories of contamination could lead to punishment if officials are tried under provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, a senior government functionary pointed out. A status report on the Jal Jeevan Mission issued by the Centre claims that the number of household tap connections that was at 24.51 lakh, or 24.23% of the total households in Karnataka on August 15, 2019, rose to 69.76 lakh, or 68.96% of the total households as on August 15. A total of 1.01 crore households have been identified for providing household tap connection.

Since the launch of the scheme on August 15, 2019, 45.25 lakh connections have been provided in Karnataka, as per the report. Of the total 28,333 villages in the State, tap connections to 100 % households have been provided in 7,301 villages. JJM is currently being implemented in 20,144 villages. Work on providing tap connections is yet to start in 888 villages.

Under the scheme, tap water connections have been provided to 97.76% of schools, 97% of anganwadis, and 94% of gram panchayats and community health centres.

As the number of households with tap connections increased over the last four years, 81 laboratories were set up to test the quality of water at regular intervals. However, one of the important challenges in water testing is the shortage of technicians. The functionality assessment of household tap connections under JJM done in 2022 found that labs have the capacity to test a maximum of 40 samples within 24 hours due to a shortage of technicians and the availability of necessary reagents in the required quantity.

The survey involved 11,770 households in 389 villages in Karnataka. The turnaround time for testing water samples was more than 48 hours in most cases. The labs that tested water on nine parameters had limited scope to take up samples from the public at large on a regular basis, the report noted.

It also reported that in 18% of the villages, water was directly supplied to households, and the remaining villages received water through an overhead tank, or sump, or both.

While Gadag, with a 99.16% household tap connection, tops the State, Bengaluru Urban district has a poor coverage of 27.31%. The bottom three districts with poor household tap connections are in the relatively better-off south Karnataka region: Bengaluru Urban, Kolar, and Chikkaballapur.

Why the continued deaths

There are a host of operational and maintenance reasons for sickness and death by water contamination, including the pumping of raw water without purification to households, unclean water storage facilities, and the delayed repair of damaged pipelines at the ground level.

According to a senior official in Koppal district, "There are two types of contaminations. One is chemical contamination, when the groundwater table goes down in summer, and the water gets contaminated by harmful chemicals like arsenic. Frequent examination of water before supplying it for drinking is the way to address the issue. The other is biological contamination. Open defecation around human habitats is very common in the Kalyana Karnataka region. Human excrement tends to join the water sources. People dig pits at several points along water supply lines and damage the pipes in a bid to draw more water. When it rains, human excrement and other dirt flows into the pits and contaminates the water flowing in the pipes."

With respect to the Raichur incident in 2022 and the more recent one at Chitradurga, the municipal administration department officials insist that directions had been given to the 314 urban local bodies to ensure cleaning the water installations twice a year and testing water monthly. While acknowledging that monitoring the action being taken had been difficult, the officials said that a dashboard to monitor adherence centrally is being planned.

About 2 crore people are covered in 314 urban local bodies for piped water supply, but the local bodies face operational and maintenance challenges in terms of inadequate funding, personnel, inadequate infrastructure and poor recovery of cost. "Just about 30% of the connections are metered. A large number of people continue to depend on public taps that attract zero tariff. The local bodies, already starved of funds, are further stretched as they have to foot the water bill too," said an official.

Where there is no possibility of supplying water from an open water source in rural areas, an official in Chitradurga pointed out that borewells are sunk, and water is directly pumped to houses. "When water is supplied directly from borewells, the intention is that residents use the water for non-drinking purposes. However, in many places, people consume the same water without treating it, which could lead to health problems," the officer pointed out.

Pipe dreams

Local people and activists point out that in many villages where JJM has been implemented, water has not flowed through the taps though infrastructure, including taps and pipelines, have been put in place.

"Even after a couple of years of drawing pipelines, tap water is still a mirage in a number of homes in north Karnataka, as water is not available either because borewells have failed or there is simply no water source. The data may be accurate in terms of connections, but the utilisation story is different," said Hafiz, a social activist in Raichur. "In many arsenic-contaminated-water areas in Raichur district, people have no option but to continue to consume the same water. Many RO plants are dysfunctional due to maintenance issues."

He also disagreed with the assessment of an official about hygiene being a cultural issue, and said though people are aware about toiletry habits, lack of toilets have contributed to the problem.

Concurring with his views, former Raichur zilla panchayat vice president Pamayya Murari said that PM Sauchalay Scheme, which is focussed on constructing toilets for free in houses that lack toilets, had not been a complete success, resulting in the continuation of open defecation. "Even in schools where children can be taught elementary hygiene habits, toilets are not in good condition, or too few, forcing many to defecate in the open," he pointed out, adding that, in many congested homes, building a toilet is impossible. "The government should build community toilets in such areas to prevent open defecation that often results in contamination."

Seabass with crispy corn and chilli paste

Bangkok's chef Ton from Le Du and Chef Pam of Potong, united with Chef Varun Totlani from Mumbai's Masque, to co-host an elaborate 10-course meal in Bengaluru

Redefining Asian flavours in modern times

Swathi Nair
swathi.nair@thehindu.co.in

For Chef Thitid 'Ton' Tassanakajohn of Michelin-starred Le Du, in Bangkok, taking the mantle of representing Thai cuisine when he travels internationally is a big responsibility; one that he is also very proud of. "My intention is to highlight and embody various aspects of Thai culinary culture, ensuring that every facet is presented in the best possible light," Ton says.

Growing up within a bustling family environment surrounded by siblings, grandparents, and parents, dining out was a rarity for Ton. Home-cooked meals by his grandfather infused the flavours and aromas that became integral to his family's identity.

"However, it was my tenure at Eleven Madison Park in New York that genuinely broadened my horizons," says the chef, whose restaurant ranked number one on Asia's 50 Best Restaurants 2023 list.

"I've been cooking for as long as I can remember–maybe since I was eight?" says Chef Pichaya 'Pam' Utharntharm. "Countless times, my mom and I dashed around our family kitchen, experimenting with various local ingredients.

This truly nurtured my deep appreciation for Thai and Chinese cuisine."

Hailing from Thai, Australian, and Chinese backgrounds, Pam grew up in Bangkok before relocating to the US, where she refined her culinary skills at Jean-Georges. Subsequently, she secured multiple awards and a judging role on Top Chef Thailand.

Her restaurant, Potong – ranked 35th on Asia's 50 Best list – revolves around five core elements: salt, acid, spice, texture, and Maillard, a chemical reaction that imparts distinct flavours by breaking down sugars. Guided by the progressive Thai-Chinese menu, tastings transport diners through Pam's culinary memories and emotions.

For Masque's head chef, Varun Totlani in Mumbai, like Ton and Pam, the passion for cooking was ignited at home. "My mom is an exceptional cook, and as a child, I'd avidly watch cooking shows on TV, often urging her to recreate the recipes. Eventually, she encouraged me to try my hand at it myself! I can't say I've ever seriously considered any other career path since then," he reflects.

Varun's cuisine is steeped in nostalgia. "I like to play off the flavours that we grew up with, and riffing on the dishes and snacks of our childhood in new and unexpected ways," he explains. This might translate to a serving of petite khari biscuit bites with fresh fruits and custard cream, or inventive masala papad squares fashioned from different corn textures.

Notably, securing the 16th position on this year's Best Restaurant in Asia list, his ingredient-focussed fine-dining establishment stands out. It holds the distinction of being the sole standalone restaurant in India included in the esteemed Relais & Châteaux collection.

Global reach of Asian cuisine

All the chefs unanimously agreed that the rise of online food bloggers has significantly heightened global awareness of the rich tapestry of Asian cuisines.

TikTok's concise video format facilitates bloggers and chefs in sharing swift and visually captivating recipes, cooking pointers, and cultural insights.

Pam views this as an ingenious method to simplify intricate dishes into manageable steps while engaging audiences from diverse backgrounds.

However, there is a balance to be struck. "While these platforms offer an incredible opportunity to showcase traditional and progressive Asian cuisines, there's also a risk of oversimplification. Authenticity is crucial, and it's important for content creators to respect the roots and origins of the dishes they're sharing," she adds.

Varun observes, "There's growing awareness that it's not just 'curry and naan' and there's a plethora of Indian cuisines beyond that. As global borders blur and exposure increases that expansion is inevitable."

Ton perceives Indian cuisine as primed to captivate global palates, riding the wave of escalating demand for vegan and vegetarian offerings.

Recently, chefs Pam, Ton, and Varun hosted a 10-course meal for the Masters Of Marriott Bonvoy Presents – Asian Invasion event at The Market at The Ritz-Carlton, Bengaluru.

Varun encapsulates the experience, stating, "The food we each cook is very much rooted in our individual cultures, and I think this was a great opportunity to see how we can connect them."

Home is where the heart is A session at Courtyard Koota. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Fostering a sense of community

A peek into Courtyard Koota, a five-year-old airy art and culture space in Kengeri

Praveen Sudevan
praveen.s@thehindu.co.in

The first thing you wonder about Courtyard Koota is how far it is from the centre of Bengaluru. The community art and culture space in Kengeri, a quiet suburb along Mysore Road, is at least a 40-minute drive from the Central Railway Station. Several art and culture centres like Ranga Shankara, Chitra Kala Parishad, and Chowdiah Memorial Hall are already near the city centre. So, why would someone drive all the way to Kengeri?

This question didn't escape Natasha Iype's mind when she was setting up Courtyard Koota in 2018. "The idea behind this initiative is to create a space where people, especially in and around Kengeri, can engage with cultural activities, particularly theatre and arts, without having to travel all the way to the city. Often, people end up opting for easier options like going to the nearby mall or watching a movie instead of exploring the cultural offerings available," she says.

Welcoming ambience

Courtyard Koota welcomes its visitors with an airy lounge, which connects the auditorium and the library. This versatile space serves as an exhibition area for art installations, a gathering spot for social interactions, or simply a place to unwind between activities.

The courtyard, embraced by picturesque pergolas on either side, provides an inviting ambience for intimate group discussions, engaging hands-on workshops, and lively conversations. The garden, graced by a gulmohar's protective shade, offers an idyllic setting for outdoor discussions or lunch breaks for 25-30 people.

For larger gatherings, there is an 80-seater acoustically treated auditorium, equipped with a sound and lighting system, a dedicated green room, and a projector.

The space also has a well-lit and well-ventilated library. This versatile space, bathed in natural light, serves as a hub for various activities, including workshops, art exhibitions, intimate performances, and book readings.

Its flexible layout allows for cosy nooks or a spacious open area, depending on the desired atmosphere.

Connecting communities

The space didn't see much activity in its first two years. The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 made things worse. Natasha was worried about shutting down the place, but the people in her community came to her rescue. They volunteered to be a part of her working committee and put together a variety of programs, such as wildlife photo exhibitions, nature walks and workshops.

"We don't want to be just another art space for elites. We want it to be a community space, where people from all backgrounds interact," says Natasha.

STEPOUT

Ode to the Orient

Shiro has launched their Bento box series, which will showcase Pan Asian flavours. This range of 'traditional recipes with a contemporary flair' includes a vegetarian spicy California roll, spicy tofu and avocado roll as well as a makimono bento, dyna maki roll and spicy tuna roll to name a few. These also come with rice/ noodles and toppings.
At Shiro, UB City, every Monday to Friday between noon and 3pm.

Nothing rotten here

C.A.U.S.E. Foundation (Cooperation of the Arts for the Upliftment of Society and the Environment) — an NGO founded by Leila Alvares, will present — *Something Rotten*. It is a musical farce, set in England in the 1590's.
At Chowdiah Memorial Hall, on August 26 and 27. For bookings, visit BookMyShow.

An evening of fusion

FNYJ Quartet will perform in Bengaluru. The jazz fusion band will feature Frijo Francis (keyboards/ synthesiser), Keith Peters (bass), Kalesh Chand (saxophone) and Floyd Libera (drums).
At Windmills Whitefield on August 18 and 19, 9.30pm onwards. Tickets on BookMyShow.

'Toby taught me to make a big-budget film'

Ahead of the release of his Kannada film *Toby*, Raj B Shetty opens up on making his first big-scale film

Vivek MV
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

Actor-director Raj B Shetty, who is known for releasing his films without much pre-release hype, has been very outspoken about *Toby*. After helming *Ondu Motteya Kathe* and *Garuda Gamana Vrishabha Vahana (GGVV)*, Raj has given the director's hat to his long-time associate Basil Alchalakkal in *Toby*. Written by Raj, based on writer TK Dayanand's story, the action-drama hits the screens on August 25.

Excerpts from an interview:

Q: *When you made* GGVV, *you were still a first-time filmmaker but now, Raj B Shetty is a brand of sorts. Will* Toby *have the Raj B Shetty touch to it or is it a 'mass' film?*

A: Mainstream 'mass' is something that I don't want to do. If you are talking about dialogues with the hero getting whistles and applause, then no, that's not what I have done. When I saw Upendra's films such as *A*, *Upendra* or *Om* it was a different experience for me. As a filmmaker, my goal is to present my content differently. I believe audiences are like me, and so I serve them content that I personally want to watch.

Q: Toby *is based on TK Dayanand's story. You have written the script but your long-time associate Basil has directed it. Does that mean you weren't the captain of the ship in* Toby*?*

A: I do think I was the captain of the ship. The director (Basil) was from my team, and I wanted him to make this film because the project was huge in scale. I don't come from a film school; I am a filmmaker who doesn't know about filmmaking. I strategise my methods which have so far worked for me.

With *Toby*, I didn't want to take this approach because if I'd taken on any more responsibility, I would have collapsed. That's the reason I wanted this film to be taken care of by Basil. But the vision of the film is still mine. I decided how the film should look and be.

Q: *What are the takeaways from making a big-scale film like this?*

A: *Toby* taught us how scary it is to make a big film. It taught us how it can change you as a human being. The process can make you mad. Things aren't in your control always.

That said, I think this is the reason we live; to make films that we don't know how to.

Our first film *Ondu Motteya Kathe* was made with a budget of ₹30 lakh. For us, it was a big amount. We hadn't seen ₹30 lakh in our lives! We didn't know if we could achieve something with that amount. In this film, we hadn't seen such big sets before. We wondered if it was really our set and how we would shoot in them. But I believe in one basic rule of cinema: One must always take one scene at a time.

Q: *So, what's next for writer-director Raj B Shetty?*

A: There is an idea that has been on mind for a while now, but it could be challenging to execute it. I might still write it. As a producer, I want to do two films under our banner. One is a comedy with a newcomer and the other will be a romantic film, again with a newcomer. I want to write and produce them.

Bigger and better Director Raj B Shetty. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

State to appeal to Cauvery authority to reconsider its directive on water release

Kumaraswamy and Bommai slammed the government for 'compromising' the interests of Karnataka for 'political reasons'; Shivakumar says govt. will convene an all-party meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid pressure from the Opposition BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) that have slammed the government's decision to release Cauvery waters to Tamil Nadu, the State government is set to appeal to the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) to reconsider its direction given to Karnataka.

The announcement on Thursday evening by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who holds the Water Resources portfolio, came even as the Opposition leaders accused the Congress government's decision to release water to be a part of its "effort to win the 2024 Lok Sabha elections". The JD(S) and the BJP accused the Congress of trying to "mollify the DMK government", which is part of the Opposition alliance INDIA, by "betraying the trust" of people of Karnataka.

The Cauvery flowing at Srirangapatna in Mandya district.
BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

'To honour authority'

"We have been instructed to release water at the rate of 10,000 cusecs for 15 days. There is a scarcity of water even for drinking purposes let alone for irrigation. Karnataka is in distress due to the non-availability of water," Mr. Shivakumar told presspersons in Bengaluru on Thursday.

"Despite the scarcity, we started releasing water to honour the directions of the authority."

He, however, said, "We have released some quantum of water in the last few days but they (Tamil Nadu) are not satisfied. We will appeal to the authority to reconsider its direction." He added, "Karnataka is in trouble." He also said that the government would consider convening an all-party meeting to discuss the issue, a suggestion that the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy had made earlier in the day.

Mr. Kumaraswamy had earlier in the day demanded that water release be stopped immediately, while BJP leader and former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai accused the government of letting go of the State's right. The two leaders also slammed Mr. Shivakumar who had asked the farmers to approach the court in this regard.

Taking the social media platform X, Mr. Kumaraswamy urged the State government to stop the release of water and follow the distress formula in sharing water. "The government is releasing water at a time when there is no water for farmers and there is a shortage of drinking water in Bengaluru... The government has yielded to Tamil Nadu that had walked away from the Cauvery Water Management Authority meeting and approached the Supreme Court. Previous governments had stood up to Tamil Nadu's threats, but this government released water out of scare after the State went to court," he said, asking why the State government did not want to convince the Supreme Court over the scarcity of water.

Mr. Bommai too slammed Mr. Shivakumar for asking farmers to approach the court, "If farmers need to approach the Supreme Court to save the Cauvery water, why is he still in power?" He further said there seems to be a "political interest" in "betraying the State's interest to protect the interest of the DMK government in Tamil Nadu".

Land under cultivation

Mr. Bommai further said, "Tamil Nadu farmers should have utilised 32 tmcft of water to cultivate in 1.8 lakh hectares as per the tribunal award. However, they have used 60 tmcft to grow crops in 4 lakh hectares. Karnataka should question this."

State achieves 75% kharif sowing target owing to deficient rainfall

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid erratic rainfall received across the State, Karnataka has recorded a 75% sowing of the targeted area this kharif season.

Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy told presspersons here on Thursday that of the total sowing target of 82.35 lakh hectares, sowing had been completed on 61.72 lakh hectares. "The State has not been able to meet the target due to deficient rainfall. Rainfall has been weak in the last two weeks, and crops could wilt if it does not rain in the next one week," he added.

Sowing has been completed on 61.72 lakh hectares. FILE PHOTO

According to the statistics released on Thursday, the State has received 472 mm rainfall as against the normal 601 mm between June 1 and August 16, a shortfall of 22%. It said that in July, the State received 349 mm rainfall as against the normal 271 mm, an excess of 29%.

Regarding the declaration of drought, the Minister said the Centre had fixed several guidelines such as 60% deficient rainfall, heat for three consecutive weeks, sowing in less than 75% area, and less than 50% moisture in soil.

"All these will be discussed at the Cabinet subcommittee meeting after obtaining data. The decision on cloud seeding will be taken after the declaration of drought," he said. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has written to the Centre to change the guidelines for drought even if there is 30% rainfall deficiency.

Integrated helpline

Meanwhile, the Minister launched an integrated helpline for farmers – 1800-425-3553 – against the eight separate lines that were available for farmers for various purposes. While the helplines received around 500 calls a week, multiple lines had become an inconvenience to farmers. The Minister also inaugurated a workshop on crop survey.

Local BJP leaders pushing me to join Cong.: Somashekar

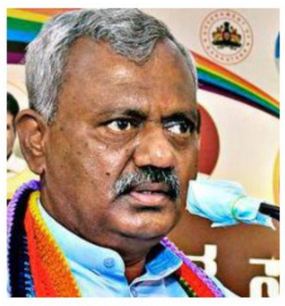
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BJP MLA and former Minister S.T. Somashekar on Thursday said it was BJP leaders from his Yeshwantpur constituency who had been pushing him to join the Congress, though he wanted to remain in the saffron party.

He blamed the local BJP leaders for spreading rumours about him joining the Congress. "I have not said anywhere that I will quit the BJP. There is no problem with the State or district-level BJP leaders. But local-level leaders worked against me. Local leaders had planned to defeat me in the 2023 Assembly elections," Mr. Somashekar said.

Calls from BJP leaders

State BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel, the former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, and the former Minister C.T. Ravi called him over the telephone on Thursday and he informed them that he had no dissatisfaction towards the State BJP leaders. He had organised programmes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah and he had not indulged in anti-party politics. He met D.V. Sadananda Gowda, MP, and no politics was discussed during the talks, Mr. Somashekar said.



S.T. Somashekar

The Yeshwantpur MLA has said that local BJP leaders had planned to defeat him in the Assembly elections

Sources said the local BJP leaders' opposition to field Mr. Somashekar's son in the coming Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) elections had caused the MLA's heartburn. Differences among the "original" versus "migrant" BJP leaders had caused a rift in the party cadre in the constituency, Mr. Somashekar said.

N. Srinivasaiah, Nelamangala MLA , said KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar had told him to make efforts to rope in Mr. Somashekar back into the Congress. "Why not if the BJP MLA says his self-respect is impacted and has expressed willingness to join the Congress?" he asked.

On Wednesday, several Congress leaders said the party was willing to re-induct MLAs who had quit the party and joined the BJP in 2019, if they believed in the Congress ideology and leadership.

Egg, banana for govt. and aided school students from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Students of classes I to X in government and aided schools in Karnataka will get egg, banana or groundnut chikki twice a week. Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, will inaugurate the programme at the Government High School at Hosahalli in Mandya district on Friday.

Earlier, the government was providing egg, banana or groundnut chikki, along with midday meals, for students of classes I to VIII. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah extended the facility to students studying in classes IX and X in the first Budget of the Congress government.

The programme will cover around 60 lakh students in Karnataka for which the government has allocated ₹280 crore.

'Digital economy will contribute 20% to GDP in 2026'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India's digital economy has been seeing accelerated growth and is expected to account for 20% of the country's GDP by 2026, said Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, on Thursday.

"Our digital economy was 4.5% of the GDP in 2014 and it is 11% today. And we expect the digital economy to contribute over 20% of our GDP by 2026," the Minister said while delivering the inaugural address at G20 Digital Innovation Alliance Summit in Bengaluru on Thursday.

India's tech adoption was mostly driven by its growing need for real solutions that could address various issues in order to transform people's lives, to transform governance, and to transform democracy. "We want to see every citizen and every consumer have access to digital products and services, be it Instagram reels or digital public infrastructure that connect them to the government and governance. Or accessing other facets of digitalistion such as cloud and all of its upstream and downstream impacts," he added.

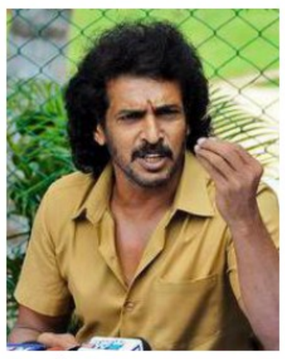
According to the Minister, "the centre of gravity of tech", which used to be controlled by a few countries centred around a few corporations, is moving to open source systems and to younger start-ups that are disrupting the normal. "These trends in turn are broadening digitisation in the country," he noted.

Digital public infrastructure, security in the digital economy, and digital skilling are going to be the key topics expected to be discussed in the digital innovation edition of the G20 summit. Delegates from various member countries are participating in the three-day summit.

High Court stays all FIRs against actor Upendra

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday stayed further proceedings against Kannada actor Upendra in all the first information reports (FIRs) registered and also if any FIRs are likely to be registered in future on the same issue related to his alleged racist remark during a recent live chat on a social media platform.



Upendra FILE PHOTO

Second petition

Justice Hemant Chandangoudar passed the interim order on the second petition filed by the actor complaining that multiple FIRs were being registered against him on the same cause of action based on which the first FIR was registered against him on August 13.

Pointing out that registration of multiple FIRs on the same incident was contrary to the apex court's judgments, the actor sought a direction to the State police chief to instruct the police not to register more FIRs against him on the same issue.

'For publicity'

Contending that the FIRs were being registered for gaining publicity, the actor claimed in the petitions that he had used a proverb while speaking on various issues faced by society during his live talk and he had not indulged in any form of insult to any caste or community.

The High Court on August 14 had stayed the first FIR registered against him.

G20 · Ministry of Power, Government of India · Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

PUBLIC NOTICE
Empowering Electricity Consumers
Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020 promulgated by Govt. of India

All the electricity consumers are hereby informed that Ministry of Power, Government of India, have promulgated the Electricity (Rights of Consumer) Rules, 2020 on 31.12.2020 under section 176 of Electricity Act, 2003. Under the said Rules, Govt. of India provides that there shall be no gratuitous/willful load shedding by Electricity Distribution Companies.

Under these Rules, 24x7* power supply is a right of the consumers and if a Distribution Company resort to willful load shedding then consumers have the right to claim compensation from the Distribution Company. Central Government has also laid down criteria for maximum time taken by a Distribution Company for various services which include Connection, Disconnection, Reconnection, Shifting, Change in Consumer Category & Load, Serving of Bill, Resolving Voltage and Bill related complaints.

Any delay in providing these services will lead to providing compensation to consumers by Distribution Company. Copy of the Rules can be downloaded from: https://powermin.gov.in/

For more information you may also visit your concerned DISCOM website: https://bescom.karnataka.gov.in, https://mescom.karnataka.gov.in, https://hescom.karnataka.gov.in, https://gescom.karnataka.gov.in, https://cescmysore.karnataka.gov.in/

*Except for categories of consumers specified by Commission

Government of Karnataka (Zilla Panchayat, Gadag)
Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports Office of The Assistant Director, K.H. Patil Stadium, Gadag – 580101
E-mail **dyssogadag@gmail.com** Phone/Tel fax : **08372- 238345**
No.: AD/DYES/GADAG/CR-20/2023-24 Date : 17.08.2023

Short Term Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited through e-procurement portal as per Karnataka Transparency in Public procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 from eligible suppliers for supply of food to Athletes of Sports Hostel of Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports for 325 days from August 2023 for the year 2023-24.

For further information visit website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact office phone no.: **08372-238345** or **9480886556**.

(1) Last date for submission of Application : **25.08.2023** (within 5.00 PM) (2) Date of opening Technical Bid of Tender : **28.08.2023** (at 11.00 AM) (3) Date of opening Financial Bid : **30.08.2023** (at 11.00 AM) (4) Total Amount of Tender : Rs. **73,12,500-00** (5) E.M.D. Amount : Rs. **1,46,250-00**

Sd/- Assistant Director,
Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Gadag.
DIPR/Gadag/KSMCA/129/2023-24

Siddaramaiah tells MLAs to work for Cong. victory in 2024 LS polls

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday chaired another round of meetings with Congress MLAs of five districts and told them to make all-out efforts to ensure the party's victory in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in their districts.

He suggested that the MLAs take steps to reach the benefits of the five guarantees of the government to eligible families in their constituencies. Better coordination between the party and the government and better ties between the MLAs and the district in-charge Ministers topped the agenda of the meetings with legislators of Gadag, Uttara Kannada, Mysuru, Chikkamagaluru, and Vijayanagara districts. In the wake of the upcoming elections to the Mysuru City Corporation council, Mr. Siddaramaiah told the legislators of the Mysuru district to ensure a thumping victory for the party in the polls. Discussions were also held with regard to fielding candidates and strategies to ensure victories in the Lok Sabha constituencies of Mysuru and Chamarajanagar districts.

Government of Karnataka
DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, KALABURAGI
DISTRICT SURVEILLANCE OFFICE, KALABURAGI
Sl. No.: D.S.O./Man Power/ /2023-24 Date: 17.08.2023

-: E-TENDER NOTIFICATION :-

Tender is invited through e-procurement portal in two cover system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999-2000 for availing services for various posts on outsource basis at the Office of the District Survey Officer, Kalaburagi for the year 2023-24. Eligible Tenderers can submit Tenders through e-procurement portal.
1) Tender approximate Amount : **73,32,620/-**, 2) E.M.D 2.5% amount to be paid along with submission to e procurement cell : 1,83,315/-, 3) Start date for submitting of online tender application: **18-08-2023,** 4) Pre-Bid-Meeting : **21-08-2023 11.30 am,** 5) Last date for submitting of online tender application: **25-08-2023 till 4.30pm,** 6) Tender opening at : District surveillance officer, District surveillance unit Kalaburagi, 7) For further details and information on Tender contact at : District surveillance officer District surveillance unit Kalaburagi.Contact No 08472-240007 & ncdgulbarga@yahoo.com, 8) For technical information on tender contact at e-procurement: **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**, 9) Date of Technical bid opening : **28-08-2023 @ 11-30 am**, 10) Opening Date & Time of Financial Bid : **04-09-2023 @ 11-30 am**

Sd/- Member Secretary, District Health & F.W Society
District Surveillance Unit, Kalaburagi.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/183/KSMC&A/2023-24

SANJEEVINI - KARNATAKA STATE RURAL LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION SOCIETY
Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Department
No. 4, 2nd Floor, Mysugar Building, J.C. Road, Near Town Hall, Bengaluru - 560002.
Phone: 080-23564271 E-mail: nrlmkarnataka@gmail.com

No:KSRLPS/Admin/Manpower Agency/165/2023-24 Date: 16-08-2023

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Through E-Procurement Platform
E-Tender for Engaging Human Resource Agency under National Livelihood Mission

Sanjeevini - KSRLPS is inviting **"Request for Proposal (RFP)"** from the eligible registered Firm / Agency to submit their interest for **Providing Human Resource Service.**

The RFP will be received through E-Procuremet Portal on **16-08-2023 onwards.** The detailed notification regarding eligibility and other details can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The Last Date for Receipt of RFP is **31-08-2023 before 5.30 PM.**

Sd/-
Mission Director
National Livelihood Mission,Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/954/Adverto/2023-24

Will Karnataka government's plan to start ride-hailing app help drivers and commuters?

The initiative comes after the increasing number of complaints against private auto and cab aggregators. The e-Governance Dept. has been asked to launch the govt.'s app within six months

EXPLAINER

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Cab and auto drivers allege that the commissions levied by cab aggregators for each trip are exorbitant.

Story so far

With a surge in grievances voiced by taxi and auto drivers against private ride-hailing platforms, Karnataka's Minister of Transport Ramalinga Reddy recently announced a plan by the State Transport Department to create its own taxi and auto booking application, similar to that of private cab aggregators.

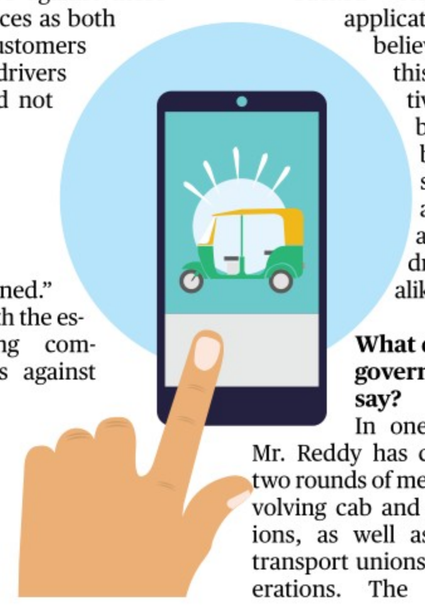
The announcement has now evolved into a concrete plan, as the Transport Department has formally requested the e-Governance Department to commence the creation of the mobile application and ensure its launch within six months.

Why is the Karnataka government developing an aggregator app?

Ride-hailing applications are typically owned and operated by private companies, with some exceptions like the Namma Yatri auto-hailing app that is operated by drivers' union.

The dissatisfaction among cab and auto drivers with private ride-hailing apps primarily stems from the significant commissions claimed by the company. Unions representing cab and auto drivers have consistently alleged that the commissions levied by cab aggregators for each trip are exorbitant, posing unfavourable prospects for the drivers' earnings.

M. Manjunath, president of Adarsha Auto and Taxi Drivers' Union, told *The Hindu*, "Before these companies came into the market, there was a friendly bond between customers and drivers. Now, it has gone since they started to charge exorbitant prices in our name. They charge ₹100 per two kilometres, and give ₹30 to the drivers. We are against these practices as both the customers and drivers should not be burdened."



With the escalating complaints against private cab and auto aggregators, Mr. Reddy said the government resolved to introduce a government-backed ride-hailing application. He believes that this initiative will benefit both passengers, and cab and auto drivers alike.

What does the government say?

In one month, Mr. Reddy has convened two rounds of meetings involving cab and auto unions, as well as private transport unions and federations. The primary agenda of these discussions was to deliberate upon and resolve their concerns regarding road tax, implications of the Shakti scheme (free transport for women in government buses), and matters pertaining to cab aggregator applications.

In the meeting, auto drivers and owners' unions demanded a ban on illegal bike taxis across Bengaluru. They also want a ban on aggregators who charge more than 5% commission of the total fare.

Mr. Reddy told *The Hindu*, "We have decided to develop an app similar to private cab aggregators since auto and cab drivers have been facing many issues. Especially, the commission paid to the cab aggregators is very high, and our taxi and auto drivers are not happy."

How will the government develop the app?

The Transport Department has already started the groundwork to build the app. The Transport Department has asked the e-Governance Department to initiate the development of the mobile application and launch it in six months.

Mr. Reddy said, "The e-Governance Department will be asked to develop the app since the department has been developing government-related apps. I am organising a meeting soon with the e-Governance Department. This app will incorporate a range of features, particularly those dedicated to enhancing the safety and security of passengers. We are also planning to take help from private agencies to run the app."

Transport Department officials are in the process of planning a visit to Kerala to study the government-operated Kerala Savari app model. In 2022, the Kerala government introduced Kerala Savari, the country's first online taxi service owned by a State Government.

What auto and cab drivers say

The auto and cab drivers seem happy with the government's intention to develop a ride-hailing application. T.M. Rudramurthy, General Secretary of the Auto Rickshaw Drivers' Union of Bengaluru, welcomed the government's decision. "We already run the successful Namma Yatri app. The government's plan for an auto and taxi aggregator app will further help auto drivers, as there is a huge demand for urban transport in Bengaluru," he told *The Hindu*.

A police clearance certificate is mandatory for drivers joining the app, apart from the required training

In 2022, under the umbrella organisation of the Bengaluru Auto Drivers' Unions and the Welfare Associations' Federation, they demanded that the Transport Department blacklist illegal apps and white-board bike taxi services, and create its own transport app to provide citizen-friendly services under government guidelines.

However, during that period, the Transport Department did not have the intention of creating the application. Consequently, this gap led to the introduction of the Namma Yatri app by the Auto Rickshaw Driver Union (ARDU). This app was developed utilizing the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) protocol, with assistance from Juspay Technologies Private Limited.

Activists and commuters give the nod to the plan

The plan by the Karnataka government to develop a taxi and auto booking application has elicited favourable reactions from both activists and commuters. Although regarded as a commendable enhancement to the transportation system, there are appeals for the government to engage stakeholders in consultations before progressing with the endeavour.

Vinay Sreenivasa, member of Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike, suggested that , the government must consult auto drivers to ensure a smooth implementation.

Tara Krishnaswamy, co-founder of Citizens for Bengaluru, said, "This idea can be beneficial for both passengers and drivers. Drivers could potentially earn 20-30% more compared to private aggregators, and have the freedom to accept rides. It could also ease the longstanding issues of kerb-side taxis in Bengaluru, and the non-metered autos. Kerala has already implemented a similar system, and it has been successful."

Do other State governments run ride-hailing apps?

In August last year, Kerala launched Kerala Savari, the country's first online taxi service owned by a State Government, to ensure fair and decent service to passengers along with fair remuneration to auto-taxi workers.

The app is operated by the Motor Workers' Welfare Board under the aegis of the Labour Department. Kerala Savari ensures safe travel for commuters at government-approved fares without any surge pricing. According to Kerala Savari official website, the application lets users book a vehicle, make payment through cash or cashless methods, and share trip details with their contacts, and travel at fares laid down by the government without any surge or hidden pricing.

A police clearance certificate is mandatory for drivers joining the app, apart from the required training.

A few months ago, the Goa government also launched a mobile application, which is a common platform for the entire taxi industry in the State.

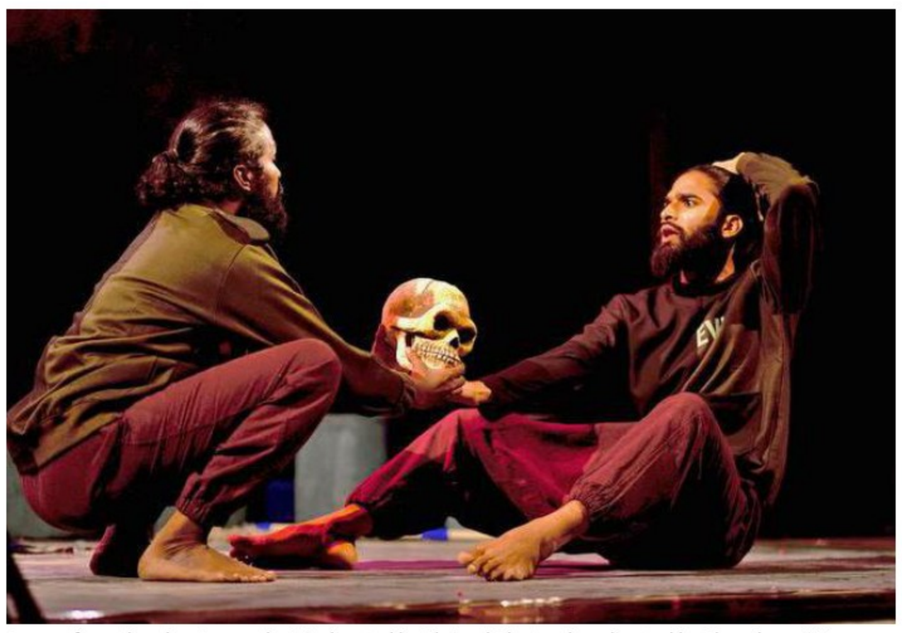
Nirdiganta to present its Bengaluru premiere of Gayagalu

The play *Gayagalu* (Wounds) explores the human tragedy of war through the works of a number of writers

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

Actor Prakash Raj's incubation centre for theatre and arts, Nirdiganta, will be presenting its debut production *Gayagalu* (Wounds), for the first time in Bengaluru this Sunday (August 20) at Ranga Shankara, J.P. Nagar.

Gayagalu, a play on the human tragedy of war, is directed by Shripad Bhat, co-directed by Shwetharani Hassan, with music by Anush Shetty and art by Khaju Guttala. It has a team of 15 artists from across Karnataka.


Scenes from the play *Gayagalu*. It is directed by Shripad Bhat and co-directed by Shwetharani Hassan.

Across languages and cultures

The play delves into finding similarities between what Italian playwright Pirandello says in his novel *War* and what Karnataka's Rashtrakavi Kuvempu says in *Smashana Kurukshetram*. The play explores how many poets and playwrights have reflected on ways in which war breaks society.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Preethi Nagaraj, the creative director of Nirdiganta, said, "The play is a contemporary collage of various poems, with selected parts from different plays, that speak about the ill effects of war. *Gayagalu* also has poems from prominent writers like Krishnamurthy Hanur, Savita Nagabhushana, Pratibha Nandakumar, Hasan Naeem Surkod and others."

Nirdiganta will present two shows of *Gayagalu* on August 20 at Ranga Shankara, at 3.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. Tickets for the show are available at the Ranga Shankara box-office and on BookMyShow. A few more shows will be presented at K.H Kalasoudha on August 25 and at the Bangalore International Centre on August 29.

For educational institutions

While *Gayagalu* is a full-fledged play on war, Nirdiganta is also presenting *Kavyaranga* for educational institutions, talking about war, oppression, and violence against women. "*Kavyaranga* is more like a response to exploitation and violence against women, where women have been used as pawns. It is very similar to *Gayagalu*, but a smaller collage to reach out to the students," says Ms. Nagaraj.

Kavyaranga is also directed by Bhat and co-directed by Hassan.

The piece has also been presented across the State, as it tours along with *Gayagalu*, in places including Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Shivamogga, Haveri, Dharward, and Davangere.

The team will be performing for students in Bengaluru too, with presentations at Nagarjuna College on August 22, Kristu Jayanti College on August 23, and at the Mount Carmel College.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 18, 1973

State Trading in Paddy in Mysore Not Likely Now

Bangalore, Aug. 17: With prospects of the programme of take-over of the wholesale trade in paddy going through this season being dim, the Mysore Government is going the whole hog to intensify its scheme of procurement of paddy, more than doubling the target as compared to last year.

According to informed Government quarters, the Chief Minister, Mr. Urs, had told the Union Food Minister, during his discussions in Delhi earlier this week, that while Mysore would be ready to go in for the wholesale trade in paddy linked to procurement, it would not be a workable procurement if the neighbouring rice-growing states, particularly surplus Andhra and Tamil Nadu, should not opt for it, considering that Mysore was a deficit state.

Farmer's Levy Enhanced and Exemption Limit Cut

Bangalore, Aug. 17: The Mysore Government has modified the existing food grains levy order, reducing the exemption limit and slightly enhancing the levy to be given by the farmers.

The modification is intended to ensure procurement of adequate stocks of food grains during the coming season.

According to modified scales of levy in respect of paddy, holdings of less than one acre have been exempted from the payment of levy if the lands are under irrigation projects and wells and holding of less than two acres for rain-fed lands.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

NUGGETS OF HISTORY

The massive stupa of Sannati

The ASI excavations on the bank of Bhima near Kanaganahalli village in Chittapur led to the discovery of the Maha Stupa, which was referred to as Adholoka Maha Chaitya, built around 200 years ago. Significantly, found here was a stone-portrait of Emperor Ashoka, the only surviving image of the Mauryan Emperor which had the inscription "Raya Asoko" in Brahmi.

The spread of Rashtrakuta Empire

Rashtrakutas ruled the Deccan and controlled parts of middle and north Indian territories for about 200 years from 755 to 975 CE. After Rashtrakuta king Dantidurga defeated Badami Chalukyas' last king Keerthivarman-II in 753, the Rashtrakutas' Deccan empire became the second largest, covering Malwa in western India to Kanchipuram in the southeast.

The author of 'Kavirajamarga'

Kavirajamarga, the earliest known Kannada Champu-Kavya (in poetry and prose) on rhetoric, poetics and grammar, has its origin in Rashtrakuta court. Earlier, there was a disagreement among scholars about the author of the work. Now, it is concluded that Srivijaya, a poet in the court of Rashtrakuta king Amoghavarsha Nrupatunga (814 to 878 CE), is the author.

Rise of the Bahmani Sultanate

Bahamani Sultanate of the Deccan was founded by Alaal-Dinn Bahman Shah (Zafar Khan) in 1347 with Ahsanabad – today's Kalaburagi – as capital. Khan, the Gulbarga governor of Delhi Sultan Muḥammad bin Tughluq, joined other military leaders, who, under the leadership of Ismail Mukh of Daulatabad, revolted against the Sultan and declared independence.

The fragmentation and after

The capital of the Bahamani kingdom was later moved to Bidar and the kingdom rose to its peak under the rule of Muhamud Gawan (1466–81) before disintegrating into five successor powers - Nizamshahi of Ahmednagar, Qutb Shahi of Golconda (Hyderabad), Barid Shahi of Bidar, Imad Shahi of Berar, Adil Shahi of Bijapur – collectively called the Deccan Sultanates.

Nagavi: A forgotten university of Rashtrakuta times

Nagavi Agrahara near Chittapur in Kalaburagi district, which once housed an important place of learning, lies in a state of neglect

Ancient structures at the historical Nagavi Agrahara in Chittapur taluk of Kalaburagi district. PHOTOS: KUMAR BURADIKATTI

Kumar Buradikatti
KALABURAGI

An hour's drive from Kalaburagi city via Nandur, Bhankur, Ravoor, and Chittapur -- with tur-dal fields and limestone quarries on either side of the poorly-maintained road and massive cement factories visible at a distance -- take you to the historical town of Nagavi. It is located about 50 km from the district headquarters Kalaburagi, and 580 km from State capital Bengaluru.

As you move a few kilometres south of Chittapur, you reach a well-conserved 1000-year-old Nagavi Yellamma temple. Nagavi Yellamma is said to be the family deity of Rashtrakutas who ruled the large areas of the Indian subcontinent between the 6th and 10th centuries. Manyakheta (today's Malkhed town), the capital of the Rashtrakuta Empire, is around 12 km from the temple. The mixed architectural style of the temple suggests its structural transformation over centuries in the hands of successive dynasties - Rashtrakutas, Chalukyas of Kalyana and Bahmani Sultanate.

Nagavi Agrahara

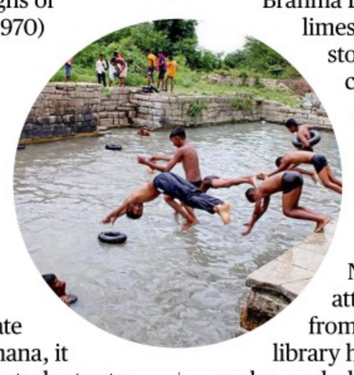
About 200 meters walk from the Yellamma temple to further south takes you to the gateway to the ruined town of ancient Nagavi. Stepping inside, you will find a number of damaged structures such as temples, step-wells, raised platforms, houses, and other structures - all built with locally available limestone blocks - scattered everywhere across the large area surrounded by the vast tracts of agricultural fields.

Based on inscriptions and historical records, researchers have concluded that it was an Agrahara, a settlement of Brahmins who were then called Mahajan. The evidence suggests that Nagavi, which was also called Nagavapi and Nagavavi in ancient times, had, at a point, provided shelter to 400 Mahajan families. An inscription describes the Nagavi Agrahara as "the Brahmaloka of four hundred Brahmins mastered in four Vedas; head of the mother earth; and the Tilak of Kuntala Desha".

'Takshashila of South'

Nagavi is often termed "Takshashila of the South" by researchers because of the intense educational activities said to have been carried out there. As per the inscriptions found in the area and historical records, the ancient town housed a famous Ghatikasthana of the time. Ghatikasthana, which means the place of learning, had the status of today's university.

The Nagavi Ghatikasthana, which was established during the early rule of Rashtrakutas, gained prominence during the reigns of Rashtrakuta ruler Krishna-III (929-970) and the Kalyana Chalukya ruler Someshvara-I (1042-1068), attracting hundreds of students from across the subcontinent. Some of the researchers compare Nagavi Ghatikasthana with Kanchi Ghatikasthana, which was at its peak of fame between the 6th and 8th centuries.



Though there is no exact estimate of the size of the Nagavi Ghatikasthana, it is roughly estimated that over 200 students at a time were studying a range of subjects including Vedas, Shastras, and the works of Kumarila Bhatta and Prabhakara. It is said that Vastu Shastra, Agastya Samhita, and Bhrigu Samhita works were also taught here. The ruined structures and the inscriptions give enough evidence for the presence of a number of houses for teachers and hostels for students in the fortified Nagavi Agrahara.

While there is no clarity about the exact spot of Ghatikasthana within the Nagavi Agrahara, some point to the 60-pillar temple. Presently, three Lingas - representing Brahma, Vishnu, and Maheshwara - are worshipped together in the structure. It is said that it is the only place where Brahma Linga is worshipped. Built with limestone, the roof is supported by 60 stone pillars spread throughout the central hall. There is a square pit at the centre of the hall and the roof opens to the sky.

Indications of a big library

The inscriptions suggest the presence of a good library at the Nagavi Ghatikasthana which attracted students and scholars from neighbouring states as well. The library had Bhandaraka (librarian), who was also a scholar, and his assistants to look after the daily affairs. The library had developed a system of copying valuable original works and giving them to scholars in need for their reference. It had many copy-makers for the purpose.

The inscriptions record a number of endowments of lands given by the contemporary rulers for the maintenance of Ghatikasthana, libraries, temples, Agrahara, and the households in it. Though Nagavi was under the rule of Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta, it received grants from other kings subsequently, including Chalukyas of Kalyana and the Haihaya king Shivarasa. When Someshwara-I, the king of Chalukyas of Kalyana, had camped in Kalagi, his military general Kalidasayya gave a land grant to Nagavi Agrahara. It is said that he and his son Madhavarasa built the Lakshmeshwara Temple and Madhusudhana Temple at Nagavi Ghatikasthana and gave land grants in Alur and Ravoor villages for their maintenance.

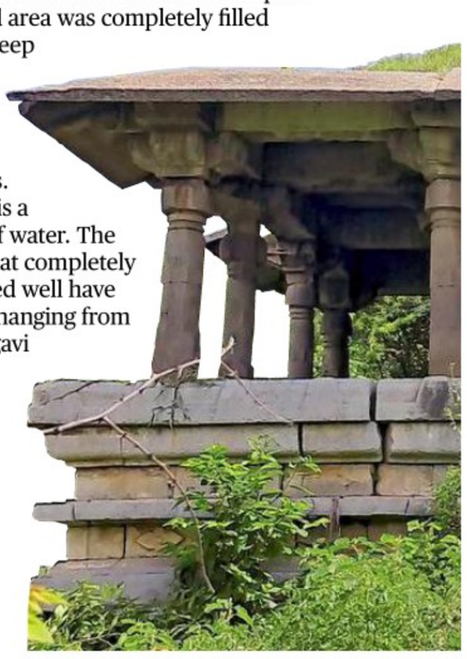
There are a number of wells in and around the Nagavi Agrahara, a few still in use. "It is in this well that many people in Chittapur town learnt swimming," a local resident told *The Hindu*.

A picture of neglect

With the Archaeological Survey of India and the local administrations conspicuous by their absence, it is hard to get to the structures given the dense Jali (Prosopis Juliflora), lantana, and other thorny shrubs that have engulfed them.

Most of the structures, some of which are over 1000 years old, have collapsed and the remaining buildings are on the verge of collapse. Two damaged structures standing side-by-side, and apparently counting their days, especially draw one's attention. One of them has two inscriptions lying on the ground in the heap of fallen stone slabs and pillars. "While some were destroyed in the natural course, some were destroyed by people who dug for treasures," a villager said.

The premises of one of the abandoned temples outside the fortified area was completely filled with the dung of sheep and goats. The livestock, while grazing, take shelter inside the temple during rains. Behind the temple is a beautiful well full of water. The trees and bushes that completely cover the water-filled well have Baya Weaver nests hanging from their branches. Nagavi charms a visitor who dares find his/her way through the thorny bushes, despite its state of neglect.



INBRIEF

Mohanlal, others to face trial in illegal ivory possession case

Actor Mohanlal and other accused in the illegal ivory possession case have been asked to personally appear before the trial court on November 3 to face criminal trial. The personal appearance was ordered after dismissing a petition initiated by the Kerala government for withdrawal of prosecution. The details of the court order are yet to be known.

Minor girl of migrant family dies after being gang-raped

A minor girl of a migrant workers' family from Madhya Pradesh died after being allegedly gang-raped and assaulted by four persons at Appannapet village in Telangana on August 14. A watchman cum site supervisor of a building at a real estate venture along with three others allegedly gang-raped and brutally assaulted the girl at a secluded place. The accused allegedly fled the scene leaving behind the girl profusely bleeding. She later succumbed to her injuries.

Another leopard captured on Tirumala trekking path

In a major respite to the trekking pilgrims, another leopard was on Thursday captured on the Tirumala footpath leading to the hill temple of Lord Venkateswara. It was the same cage set up in the vicinity of Narasimha Swamy temple on the footpath, where a leopard had been trapped on Monday last. In the aftermath of the tragic incident, wherein a six-year old was mauled to death in a wild beast attack last week, three cages were set up at different locations along the footpath. Three leopards had been captured in the last 50 days.

Indians stranded in Niger cross border, enter Benin

The group comprising a dozen people, including eight Keralites, embarks on a risky journey after repeated pleas for evacuation from Sahel region evinced no major response from Indian Embassy

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Amid the deteriorating security situation in Niger - one of the most politically unstable and conflict-prone countries in West Africa - a group of Indians, including Keralites, who were stranded in Niamey, the capital of Niger, took the risk of crossing the country's border by road after their repeated pleas for evacuation from the Sahel region evinced no major response from the Indian Embassy.

According to the members of the group, comprising a dozen people, including eight Keralites, they reached the Benin border on Wednesday morning after there was no clarity on the evacuation mission by the Indian Embassy in Niger. "The only support we were given was a letter issued by the Indian Embassy directing us to cross the capital city border. Foreigners are generally not allowed to go beyond the capital city," said the members.

A file photo of people taking part in a demonstration in Niger. Many Indians are awaiting evacuation by the Union government. REUTERS

Although the group reached the Benin border, they were stopped by the Niger military, forcing them to take refuge in a nearby building on Wednesday night. Later, after repeated requests, they were allowed to cross the border on Thursday afternoon.

Their passports are now stamped with exit and entry to Benin by the authorities. The team will reach the Benin capital city of Porto-Novo on Friday. The members will have to take a flight to India on their own as the Indian Embassy has not made any arrangements for their evacuation.

Meanwhile, more than 300 Indians in Niger are still anxiously awaiting evacuation by the Indian government.

High drama at IISc Bengaluru after security staff attempt to stop activist Teesta

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru campus witnessed high drama after security staff tried to stop civil rights activist Teesta Setalvad from entering the institute, in an alleged bid to scuttle her talk on Wednesday.

Ms. Setalvad arrived at the Kendriya Vidyalaya gate for a talk on "Communal Harmony and Justice" organised by Break the Silence, a collective of IISc students. However, a security officer stopped her from entering. A student organiser told *The Hindu* they had booked the CCE hall for the event about seven days back and that the IISc administration had not denied permission. However, hours before the event, they were told that they cannot host the event at CCE hall, and hence the venue was changed.

Ms. Setalvad was then taken to the next gate,

Teesta Setalvad

where again she was stopped. One of IISc professors then called the higher officials after which she was let in. The event was finally held outside a canteen on the campus.

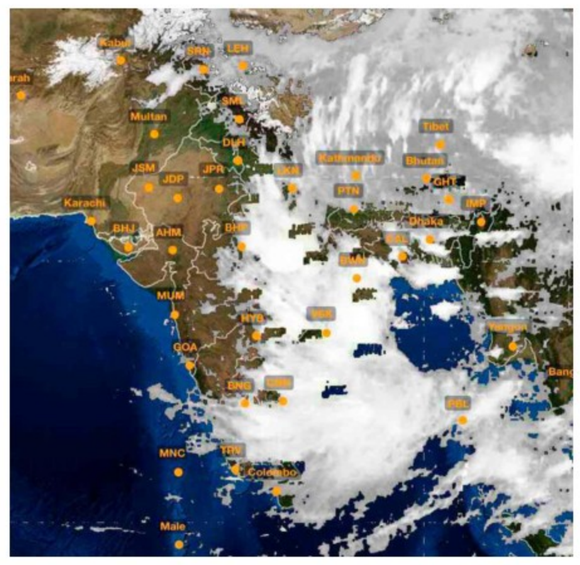
Terming the incident unfortunate, she said: "Communal harmony, justice, peace building and hate cannot be taboo subjects in a premier science institute and in any public spaces in 21st century India."

One of the security personnel claimed he had instructions to stop the activist, a professor said.

IISc authorities did not comment when reached out for a response.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttarakhand, east Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	35.6	26.8	Kozhikode	—	33.8	25.2
Ahmedabad	—	32.0	26.0	Kurnool	—	34.0	26.8
Aizawl	3	26.0	22.9	Lucknow	—	35.2	27.7
Allahabad	—	37.7	28.4	Madurai	—	39.0	24.5
Bengaluru	—	31.0	21.8	Mangaluru	19.2	30.2	23.5
Bhopal	—	—	23.9	Mumbai	—	31.7	26.8
Bhubaneswar	56.2	29.8	25.7	Mysuru	—	32.0	23.0
Chandigarh	—	35.3	27.3	New Delhi	—	36.7	27.5
Chennai	1	37.1	26.0	Patna	22	34.5	27.0
Coimbatore	—	34.2	23.3	Port Blair	2	30.6	26.5
Dehradun	—	33.0	25.6	Puducherry	—	38.0	26.3
Gangtok	28	24.2	18.9	Pune	0.1	27.3	21.7
Goa	9	31.0	24.0	Raipur	—	34.5	26.5
Guwahati	—	37.0	26.3	Ranchi	10	28.8	22.9
Hubballi	—	30.0	22.0	Shillong	69	27.0	17.7
Hyderabad	—	30.8	24.7	Shimla	—	23.3	17.0
Imphal	33	29.5	21.9	Srinagar	—	31.2	18.2
Jaipur	1	35.6	26.1	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.2	24.1
Kochi	—	30.8	25.4	Tiruchi	—	38.3	25.6
Kohima	9	24.6	14.6	Vijayawada	—	37.0	28.0
Kolkata	14	33.0	26.3	Visakhapatnam	—	33.5	29.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	41	.42	58	161	
Bengaluru	7	—	.40	232	182	
Chennai	.10	.25	103	51	49	
Delhi	.22	—	.34	109	333	
Hyderabad	7	.11	.37	86	104	
Kolkata	.13	.29	.30	57	56	
Lucknow	1	9	3	106	77	
Mumbai	.32	.10	.23	47	101	
Pune	133	221	109	53	47	
Visakhapatnam	—	.35	.54	75	—	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Mandi Gobindgarh, Punjab recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 229 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 27

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH RAICHUR
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION RAICHUR
NO./EE/RDWS&S/RCR/TS/MVSO&M/2023-24/666 DATED: 07-08-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer RDWS & S Division Raichur invites tenders from eligible tenderers Registered under e-procurement civil contractors in Panchayath Engineering Department, for Providing water supply scheme to below works, as per KW-1 & 3 Standard Bid Document Under O&M 2023-24. The tenderers may submit tenders for the works given in the table in GOK e- Procurement platform www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in only as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed.

1) Notification Date :07-08-2023 2) Download of tender schedule documents online: 08-08-2023 3) Last date for receiving of filled tender documents : 21-08-2023 at 4:30 PM 4) Opening of Technical bid : 23-08-2023 at 11:00 AM 5) Opening of Financial bid: 24-08-2023 at 11:00 AM

Indent Nos.:- Lingasugur:2195MVS O&M **Sindhanur :** 2232 MVS O&M

More details can be had from the Office of the under signed and also through our website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in by clicking the List of Tenders which will be link all Dept. works list.

DIP/RCR/93/KSMC&A/Job No.89/2023-24

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDWS&S. Divn, Raichur

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No. B31/SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/E-Tender/45452/2023-24 Date : 17.08.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bid against enq No.: **KPTCL/B31/SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/OSA/2/2023-24**, for **"Development of Web Based software for KPTCL Online services - G2G and G2B".** The bids will be received through e-procurement mode only.
The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging onto KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on the hyperlink e-procurement on or after **21.08.2023, 5.00 PM.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Elecl., IT, KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560009

Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Regd. Office: 5th Floor, TTMC 'A' Block, BMTC Building, Shanthinagar, Bangalore-27
Ph : 080-22278813/14/15/16 Website: www.ksmcl.org
No:55/KSMCL/MECH/ TIOM,DGQ,KMM/Hire Vehicle/2023-24/1083 DATE: 14.08.2023

Short Term e-Tender Invitation

KSMCL invites short term e-tender for Hired Vehicle 2 No's 10 Wheel Tipper, 01 Water Tanker and Cruiser /Tempo Trax (12+1 Seater) for Thimmappangudi Iron Ore Mine, Karya Maganesite Mine and Dumagere Grante Quarries. Within the State of Karnataka.

Calendar of Event

Last date for submission of Tender	Up to 17.00 Hrs on 22.08.2023
Date of opening of Technical Tender	At 11.00 hrs on 24.08.2023
Earnest Money Deposit {EMD}	Rs.55,800/- (for more details refer page No.33 of Tender documents)

Tender document may be downloaded from e-procurement GOK platform website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Contact for any support in uploading & registration, e-procurement **Helpdesk: 080-46010000/68948777**

DIPR/CP/KAVITA/932/2023-24

Sd/- General Manager(A&V)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that my client has lost the 1) Original Sale Deed dt. 14-08-1963, registered as No. 2506/1963-64, Book 1, Vol. 411, at pages 94-96, 2)Original Sale Deed dt. 13-12-1961, registered as No.4935/61-62, Book 1, Vol. 280, pages 135-137, 3) Original Partition Deed dated 17-04-1978, registered as No.1114/78-79 of Book 1, Vol. 538, at pages 40-47, dt. 24-05-1978 and 4) Original Partition Deed dt.2-01-1978, registered as No.2463/1977-78 of Book 1Vol. 07, at pages 45-50, all documents registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk, with respect to New Municipal No.3/06 (earlier No. 3/1, old Site Nos. 20 & 21), formed in Sy No.88/3, situated at 1st 'A' Cross, Adugodi Village, presently within the limits of BBMP, Ward No. 63, Lakkasandra, having BBMP Khata PID No.63-50-3/06, measuring East to West:- (59+68)/2 ft and North to South:- (58+68)/2 ft and totally measuring 4000.5sqft and bounded on the East by: Road, West by: Property belonging to Smt. Muninanjamma, North by: Vacant Site & South by: Road. In this regard, an online Police Complaints have also been lodged in Bangaluru Police Unit,on 02-08-2023, registered as Lost Report bearing Nos.0668371/2023,0668357/2023, 0668336/2023 and 0668320/2023
If any person has any claim or holding of the afore said documents may contact the undersigned within 7 days from the date of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

K.S.Nandish Babu, Advocate,
Room No.7,Above Hotel Janatha,
MBS Building,H.Siddaiah Road,
Wilson Garden, Bangalore – 560 027

UTTAR PRADESH EXPRESSWAYS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (UPEIDA)
INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

For Development of Solar Park on PPP Mode along the Bundelkhand Expressway in the State of Uttar Pradesh

Please refer to the captioned notice published in this newspaper on 03.08.2023 for inviting "Expression of Interest" for exploring the possibility of development of Solar Parks on PPP mode along both sides of the four lane Access Controlled 296 Km long Green Field 'Bundelkhand Expressway' and to finalize the contour of the project. In this regard, please note that the last date of receiving applications on e-mail at **upeida2@gmail.com** has been extended till 03:00 PM on 24.08.2023. The shortlisted firms / companies will be invited for the presentations and discussions.

Chief Executive Officer,
Uttar Pradesh Expressways and Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA)
2nd Floor , Paryatan Bhawan, C-13, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

R.O. No. 193431 date:- 16/08/2023

Phone: (Office) 0522-2287068
(Office) 0522-2287233
Fax: (Office) 0522-2286471
E-mail: upgwd.in@gmail.com
Website-http:// upgwd.gov.in

Office of the Director,
Ground Water Department,U.P.
State Ground Water Informatics Centre (BhujalBhawan),
Village-Hariharpur, Near Delhi Public School,
Shahidpath,Lucknow-226002

No. 906 /GWD/A-7(DWLR)/2023-24 Dated: 14/08/2023

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

TheDirector Ground Water Department, Uttar Pradesh, on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, invites online bidsfrom eligible bidders/firms (eligibility conditions detailed in Bid Document) through E-Tendering in two envelop system for the work as detailed below:-

S. No	Tender Notice No.	Name & Description of Work	Estimated Cost (without GST) (Rs. in Lakh)	Completion Period of Work	EMD/Bid Security Amount (Rs. in Lakh)	Cost of Bid Document (Rs.)
1.	01/DWLR/ 2023-24	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 545 Digital Water Level Recorder (DWLR) (Non-Vented pressure type) with Telemetry, including fencing and establishment of Data Acquisition system along with its maintenance for Real Time Ground Water level Monitoring System	654.31	05 Months	13.10	5000+ GST@ 18% Total = 5900.00

1. The Bid Document shall be available online on E-Tender portal https://www.etender.up.nic.in from Dated 23-08-2023 at 14:00 hours to Dated 11-09-2023 at 15:00 hours. The last date of online submission of bid document through E-Tender portal is Dated 11-09-2023 at 15:00 hours. The Technical Part of Bid shall be opened onDated 11-09-2023 at 16:00 hours at office of Director Ground Water Department UP by the Tender Committee.
2. For submission & other Tender details, please refer NIT available on website E-Tender portal https://www.etender.up.nic.in. The Bid Document and other details are also available on GWD, UP website http:// upgwd.gov.in. The corrigendum/amendments etc., if any, will be notified on these websites only and separate advertisements will not be publish for the same.
3. GWDUP reserves the right to accept or reject any bid without assigning any reason or incurring any liability whatsoever.

R.O. No. 193416 date:- 16/08/2023

(V.K Upadhyay) Director,

KARNATAKA STATE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING BOARD
No.16, 2nd Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001
PH: 080-22867369 E-mail: cgmksamb@gmail.com
Tender No. KSAMB/AP/Tender/3062/2023-24 Date : 16.08.2023

SHORT TERM e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka State Agricultural Marketing Board, Bangaluru is inviting short term e-bidding through e-procurement portal from Eligible Insurance providers for Implementation of Group Term Insurance Scheme to the Licensed Sharmaikas of APMC's The detailed information can be obtained from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** portal vide Indent No: APMC/ 2023-24/ SE0073/CALL-2 The Last Date **22.08.2023.**

Sd/-
Chief General Manager
K.S.A.M.B., Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/SHIRDI SAI/943/2023-24

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ. ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ
Ph. Office & EE : 08226-226054 email : eerdwsd.chn@gmail.com

ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಭೂ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ (Geologist) ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನ

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ರವರಿಂದ ಭೂ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ (**Geologist**) ಹುದ್ದೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಆಸಕ್ತ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ದಿನಾಂಕ 16-08-2023 ರಿಂದ 25-08-2023 ರೊಳಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

* ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ : M.Sc. (Geology)
* ಕನಿಷ್ಟ ಅಂಕಗಳು : Not less than 60%
* ಸೇವಾ ಅನುಭವ : 5 ವರ್ಷ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರಬೇಕು
* ವಯೋಮಿತಿ : 45 ವರ್ಷ ಮೀರಿರಬಾರದು.

ಸಹಿ/- **ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,**
ಗ್ರಾ.ಕು.ನೀ & ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ

ವಾಸಾಸಂಜ:ಚಾಸನಗರ:97:2023-24

KARNATAKA SILK INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
3rd & 4th Floors, Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru – 560 001
Ph: 080- 25586550/25586399 Fax: 080-25587020, Email: info@ksicsilk.com
No. KSIC/PD/ALMIRAH/HO&SWF/01/2023-2024 Date: 14.08.2023

Tender for Supply of Godrej Make Steel Almirah for KSIC Head Office, Bengaluru and Silk Weaving Factory, Mysuru

Sealed and superscribed tenders are invited from reputed firms for supply of Godrej Make Steel Almirah-10 Nos. for KSIC Head Office, Benglauru and Silk Weaving Factory, Mysuru.
The tender document may be obtained from General Manager (Procurement) either in person or by post on payment of Rs.200/- by Cash/DD. Last date and time for submission of the tender along with **EMD of Rs. 5,600/-** by DD in favor of **"KSIC Ltd" payable at Bengaluru** on or before **16.09.2023 till 03.00 P.M.** The Technical Bids will be opened on **16.09.2023 at 04:00 PM.** Further details can be had from Office of the Undersigned during working hours either personally or over phone 080-25586550.

Sd/-
GENERAL MANAGER(Proc)

DIPR/CP/JA/926/2023-24

Fighting stereotypes

Court guidelines on gender typecasting can be a catalyst for change

In the quest for equal rights for all, the Supreme Court of India has taken an important step by releasing guidelines to take on harmful gender stereotypes that perpetuate inequalities. Laying down a set of dos and don'ts for judicial decision-making and writing, the *Handbook on Combating Gender Stereotypes* helps judges identify language that promotes archaic and "incorrect ideas", about women in particular, and offers alternative words and phrases. Instead of "affair", it will be *de rigueur* to say a "relationship outside of marriage"; similarly, for "adulteress", the preferred usage is a "woman who has engaged in sexual relations outside of marriage". A host of derogatory and seemingly mild adjectives have been dropped too while referring to women. For instance, it is no longer "chaste" woman, "dutiful" wife, "housewife"; a plain "woman", "wife" and "homemaker" will do. Men have not been forgotten either, with the Court striking down words such as "effeminate" (when used pejoratively), and "faggot", with the directive, "accurately describe the individual's sexual orientation (e.g. homosexual or bisexual)". Pointing out that stereotypes – "a set idea that people have about what someone or something is like, especially an idea that is wrong" – leads to exclusion and discrimination, it identifies common presumptions about the way sexual harassment, assault, rape and other violent crimes are viewed, skewed against women.

One of the stereotypes the Court shatters is women who do not wear traditional clothes and smoke or drink are asking for trouble, and drives home the important point of consent. It also firmly asserts that women who are sexually assaulted may not be able to immediately report the traumatic incident. Courts should take social realities and other challenges facing women seriously, it says. It is wrong, the Court adds, to assume women are "overly emotional, illogical, and cannot take decisions". It is also a stereotypical presumption that all women want to have children, says the handbook, and points out, "deciding to become a parent is an individual choice". These possibilities, to be able to choose what to do in life, are still frustratingly out of reach for most of India's women. In a largely patriarchal society, girls are often forced to pick marriage as a way out to avoid social stigma, and not education and a career. Even if things are changing, the pace is slow. To achieve gender equality, fundamental changes need to be made to shun all stereotypes. That women are more nurturing and better suited to care for others, and should do all household chores are simply wrong notions. The handbook may be a guide for judges and lawyers, but it could also be a catalyst for change right down to the societal level.

Noble intentions

Artisans need a ready market for their products, not just affordable credit

The PM Vishwakarma scheme approved by the Cabinet on Wednesday to help traditional craftspeople and artisans can provide an economic boost to these professionals. Announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech, the scheme, with an outlay of ₹13,000 crore, provides loans of up to a total of ₹3 lakh (in two tranches) at a concessional interest rate of 5%. It covers individuals from 18 trades such as cobblers, toy makers, laundrymen, barbers, masons and coir weavers. The government expects about five lakh families to be covered in the first year and 30 lakh families to benefit from the scheme over five years. But the scheme can help craftspeople and artisans only to the extent of freeing them from the difficulties they now face in accessing affordable credit from the formal banking system. However, the support extended to these struggling artisanal communities could come with its own risks in the way of unintended consequences. The challenges they face are far deeper than just the availability of cheap credit. By far the biggest of these that traditional art and craft professionals face is either the lack of patronage for their goods and services in the wider marketplace, or in the case of other trades, a skewed undervaluation of their economic output.

Crucially, the lack of access to formal credit may simply be a symptom rather than the cause of the underlying problem these communities face. No government scheme can help these communities in the long run unless it helps them overcome the fundamental problem of a lack of economic viability for their output. More seriously, if the scheme fails to open up new markets and simply extends loans to these communities in the name of promoting their welfare, it runs the risk of leaving not only the intended beneficiaries but also their families deeper in debt. Also, by laying stress on the intergenerational nature of knowledge dissemination in these communities, the scheme could end up leaving the next generation willy-nilly stuck for perpetuity in these traditional low-paying trades, many of which are practised in a caste straitjacket. The Vishwakarma scheme includes skilling programmes that offer a nominal stipend as well as financial help to purchase modern tools. Ultimately, the success of this well-intentioned scheme will hinge on its implementation, an area where the government would do well to rope in professionals with the know-how and entrepreneurial flair to help the craftspeople and artisans upgrade their offerings to cater to new markets and tap fresh opportunities.

Gaps in Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Act

K. Narayanan Unni

is a retired officer of the Indian Statistical Service and former Deputy Registrar General (Civil Registration)

The Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969 provides for compulsory registration of births and deaths under a uniform law across India. Experience of its working indicates that it is necessary to amend it for several reasons, and things could be changing as a Bill to amend this Act – called the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023 – for the first time since its inception, has been passed by Parliament and has got the assent of the President of India.

One of the major objectives that has been stated in the 'Statement of Objects and Reasons' attached to the Bill is "to create a National and State level database of registered births and deaths which would help in updating other databases resulting in efficient and transparent delivery of public services and social benefits".

Building databases

For this purpose, the Bill makes it compulsory that the Registrar General of India maintains a national level database of births and deaths, and that the Chief Registrar of births and deaths in every State is required to maintain a State-level database of registered births and deaths 'using the portal approved by the Registrar General of India'. These databases are to provide information to update the National Population Register, the Aadhaar database, electoral rolls, ration card, passport, and other databases at the national level, as may be notified.

In the case of birth, the amendments provide for collecting the Aadhaar number of the parents. Nothing is mentioned about the Aadhaar number of the deceased. Updating many of the databases would require removing the names of the deceased from the database. If the Aadhaar number of a deceased person is not collected, it would be impossible to achieve this objective. This means that the laudable objective of ensuring 'efficient and transparent delivery of public services and social benefits' would remain a dream.

Do we need the central and State databases of births and deaths? The registration hierarchy is the responsibility of State governments, with the Registrar General of India having only the role of coordination and unification of the registration system.

The maintenance of the central database is being added to the Registrar General of India's functions. The Chief Registrars are the executive authorities for the matters relating registration of births and deaths in the States. They need to maintain a database for efficient delivery of services of providing birth and death certificates and are doing so in many States even now.

> The objective of national and State-level databases of registered births and deaths helping to update important databases seems distant

The national database is going to be nothing but a collection of State-level databases, except for some data items that some States may have in addition to the national standards prescribed by the Registrar General of India. So, if the authorities maintaining other databases require information on births and deaths, it is possible to design a system wherein the required data flow to their databases on a daily basis or even a real time basis from the State-level database. The Registrar General of India needs to specify the standards for the data structures and transfer protocols. So, what is the need for a national-level database?

It is provided that this database at the central level be made available to authorities dealing with the maintenance and preparation of databases relating to the population register, electoral rolls, Aadhaar number, ration card, passport, driving licence, property registration and such other databases at the national level, as may be notified.

If those authorities require information from the database of registered births and deaths to update their databases, it requires amendment in the laws or executive orders under which they are maintained. The RBD Act only needs an enabling provision to share information from the database. Even that may not be necessary as the birth and death registers are considered public documents.

Listing a few databases for consideration by Parliament and leaving future additions to the government is demeaning to Parliament in a way. New additions to the list later may be more dangerous than those listed and approved by Parliament. For example, the government can now decide that a list of women whose third or higher order birth is being registered be prepared and given to the Family Welfare department for follow up on family planning programmes.

Certificate of cause of death

With regard to the facilities available now, the State government could decide that a cause of death certificate should be issued by the medical practitioner who attended the deceased person so that the certificate can be sent along with the death report. The areas/hospitals where such a certificate has been made mandatory varies across States, but is generally restricted to deaths in medical institutions. The amendments make it compulsory that for all deaths in medical institutions, a cause of death certificate be sent to the Registrar of Births and Deaths and a copy of the certificate is provided to the closest relative. For deaths that occur outside hospitals, the medical practitioner who attended to the deceased during the person's recent illness has to issue such a certificate. This is fraught with problems:

First, the medical practitioner may not have always arrived at a definite diagnosis before the person died.

Second, the forms for cause of death that are being used are in conformity with World Health Organization recommendations. If the deceased was attended by a practitioner of the AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) systems of medicine, the cause of death recorded may not be usable for cause of death statistics since they may not be classifiable under the International Classification of Diseases.

Third, a person who was under treatment for a certain disease can die of an entirely different cause outside a medical facility when the medical practitioner was not available for consultation. How can the practitioner be expected to issue a certificate of cause of death in such cases?

Fourth, while Section 17 of the Act prohibits the inclusion of cause of death in any certificate issued under the Act, it now says that the cause of death certificate should be given to the relative of the deceased. These are contradictory as the cause of death in the death register is taken from the same cause of death certificate issued by the medical practitioner

Birth and death certificates

It is provided that the birth certificate alone would be accepted as proof of date and place of birth for many purposes such as school admission, issue of passport, and issue of Aadhaar number. This may not require any amendment in this Act or any other Act. It should be possible to achieve this through amendments in the rules relating to those databases or even executive orders. For example, while applying for passports, it was compulsory to have the birth certificate for those born after January 26, 1989 under the relevant rules. The present government removed this requirement in December 2016.

When natural calamities or accidents occur, several persons are reported missing; many of them may have died too. It has been seen that the police would have to call off the search for them after some time. However, the families of such persons would have to wait for seven years to request for a certificate that says 'presumed dead'. A provision could have been inserted in the Act to register a 'presumed death' when it is reasonable to assume that the person would have died in the calamity or accident. This would help the family concerned get the death certificates earlier.

Word choice in data protection law, a dilution of rights

Sunetra Ravindran

is a Team Lead at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

Lalit Panda

is a Senior Resident Fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

After years of going back and forth on its contents, India finally has a data protection law, i.e., the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. While small steps forward may be better than inertia or taking giant and hasty leaps, figuring out how far this law will take us requires that we understand how it protects our privacy in everyday situations and routinely touches our lives. In the search for an answer to this question, we need to look at two basic features of any data protection law: the use of personal data with consent and without it.

Standard situations and the issues

The classic problem in data protection is the standard for consent. When your data is being used, do you have a choice in the matter? For example, your Internet activity can be used to study you. An app could find out your religion from what you eat, your health status from your physical activity, or your sexuality from your movie preferences. Maybe you have given your phone number to a business while making a purchase, but do not want to be bombarded with marketing calls.

As decades of experience in India and other jurisdictions tell us, these are standard situations that even the most minimal data protection law must address. How does India's new law deal with such problems? There are two relevant provisions in the Act. One says that you should be properly informed about what you are agreeing to and only clear positive actions by you (as opposed to silence) will be taken to indicate consent. But this strict provision is undercut by a second provision permitting use of your data if you have "voluntarily provided" it and "have not indicated" that you do not consent. The choice of words is telling. If you "have not indicated"

> What may seem as legal technicalities in the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, are in fact conscious policy choices that dilute people's rights

refusal, governments and businesses can assume your consent for various uses without notifying you. And who is to say you do not "provide" your data simply by visiting a public place or website, or making an online account? After all, "provide" is not the same as "share" or "transfer". This ambiguity will result in confusion in courts as well as business uncertainty about the correct standard for consent. In all likelihood, the weak standard will gobble up the strong one.

Convenience, not necessity

It should be apparent, however, that personal data cannot always be used with consent. For instance, a person's choices regarding their data can get in the way of various public functions involving verification of identity, targeting of welfare benefits and implementation of laws. These functions can be thwarted by misrepresenting or withholding information. But does that mean there is no protection for such data? In previous drafts of the new law, your personal data could be used without consent only if it was "necessary" for a specified purpose in carrying out certain legitimate state functions, meeting legal requirements, and dealing with emergencies. The data fiduciary needed to demonstrate that they had no feasible alternatives to collecting and using the information in the manner that they had.

It is important to understand the significance of this: sometimes, consensual processing of data is very much feasible, if inconvenient. Even if consent is not feasible, specific methods of identity verification, or the use of sensitive data on health, religion, political affiliation, and sexuality may not be strictly necessary when designing and implementing many kinds of public programmes. For example, information on membership in a trade union is not necessary in assessing a job application, even if the employer thinks it is relevant for their purposes. If data is allowed to be processed even when it is not necessary, those doing so will always choose the more convenient route. Privacy will always be low priority. This is exactly what the 2023 law does – it allows processing without consent when it is "for" (and not "necessary for") certain legitimate uses. This small change in wording will make a huge difference in the actual level of protection provided.

An area of concern

What is more, when your data is processed without consent, you will neither be notified of this nor subsequently be able to confirm it. If you somehow find out that your data is being used, you will not have the right to get incorrect data corrected or unnecessary data erased. Data taken for one non-consensual purpose can be freely used for others. This is despite the fact that the Supreme Court of India has held principles such as necessity and purpose limitation to be a part of the right to informational privacy.

Others elsewhere have raised serious concerns about the way the new law deals with the rights to information and free speech, surveillance reform, and the regulatory structure. On the other hand, while the issues described in this article may seem like legal technicalities, they are in fact conscious policy choices substantially diluting rights that could otherwise have been provided for.

If we want this law to meaningfully protect personal data, it is essential that we find ways to tackle these shortcomings.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Handbook and stereotypes

In releasing a handbook with the aim of eliminating gender stereotypes, the Supreme Court of India has done well. One hopes that the text will help deliver justice to all without gender considerations. The initiative will definitely enhance the dignity of women, whose voice has been throttled owing to various issues related to a male-dominated society.

J. Radhakrishna Kurup,
Ettumanoor, Kottayam, Kerala

Nehru museum

It is sad that the government of the day has chosen to rename the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library in Teen Murti Bhavan (which was the official residence of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru) as the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society.

Pandit Nehru is remembered for many other things.

He was not only a freedom fighter but also the first Prime Minister of independent India. He never made any tall claims. He stood by the principles of socialism and secularism. He was not dynastic by any chance. When asked as to who he would choose as the next Prime Minister, he gently said the people of India would decide. A visit to Teen Murti Bhavan is a sort of pilgrimage, a voyage to freedom.

Pandit Nehru can be called the jewel of India. To remove his name only displays a politics of hate towards the Nehru family, which should be avoided. Probably, this is the culmination of an erasing of Pandit Nehru's memory from the collective conscience of the people. This is hardly doing any justice to the man who said he was standing before the people of India not as their first Prime Minister but as their first servant.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

It is a fact that the government of the day is always trying to belittle the contributions of Nehru. If the government wanted to honour all the former Prime Ministers of India, it could have done so without indulging in pettiness and hate toward the first Prime Minister and the architect of modern India with his commitment to democracy and efforts to develop the country — with huge dams, public sector undertakings with huge investments in critical areas and instilling a scientific temper in the people.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

It seems that even the word "Nehru" is sufficient to raise the Bharatiya Janata Party's hackles. Does the ruling BJP think that it is going to rule India's political landscape for ever and ever? If, in the near or distant future the Congress returns to power, it will lose no time in upsetting the BJP's apple cart by reverting to the old name.

"One should always play fairly when one has the winning cards," said Oscar Wilde. Is anybody from the BJP listening?

Avinash Godboley,
Dewas, Madhya Pradesh

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Is there a need to replace the IPC, the CrPC and the Evidence Act?

Prakash Singh
is a former IPS officer

Shahrukh Alam
is an advocate at the Supreme Court

PARLEY

On August 11, 2023, Union Home Minister Amit Shah introduced three Bills in the Lok Sabha; the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill to replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Bill to replace the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Bharatiya Sakshya Bill to replace the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The proposal raises questions on whether the existing laws were being misused for them to be changed, and the amendments made in the new Bills. In a conversation moderated by **Sonam Saigal**, Prakash Singh and Shahrukh Alam discuss whether the existing laws need to go. Edited excerpts:

How different are the new Bills different from the prevalent laws?

Prakash Singh: It is true that the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) and the Indian Evidence Act were fully operational, their sections were utilised in the criminal justice system and the public had become used to it. But it would be an exaggeration to say that they reflected the changing values and the democratic aspirations of the people. Much water has flowed down the rivers ever since the IPC was enacted in 1860. The entire socio-economic scenario and political complexion have changed. I think a need was felt that these laws should reflect the change. What they (the government) have done is undertake a tremendous exercise. For example, in the IPC, 175 sections have been amended, eight new sections have been added and 22 sections have been repealed to generate the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill.

Shahrukh Alam: It is very true that the codes (IPC, CrPC and Evidence Act) probably did not fully reflect the changes in society. But there seems to be some ambiguity about how these news laws would relate to all the precedents, jurisprudence and case laws that were developed on the basis of the old codes.

There is a debate going on across the world in terms of criminal justice jurisprudence, which talks about keeping someone in detention without being charged. In Scotland, the amount of time for which you can keep someone in detention without bringing charges against them is six hours. However, in our country, it was 60 days and the new Bill proposes 90 days. So, it seems we are going in the opposite direction. The new CrPC seems to have formalised this principle not just for acts related to terrorism, but for any IPC offence.

Unbridled reign: The new CrPC seems to give a lot of discretionary powers to the police, like the 'right to handcuff'. ISTOCKPHOTO

The new CrPC also seems to give a lot of discretionary powers to the police, like the 'right to handcuff' which we have never had in India. Now there's discretion to handcuff, to arrest women after sunset in exceptional circumstances, and to use any force and means necessary when arresting a person. That could legitimise encounters and all kinds of violence.

The new Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill allows custody from 15 days which can go up to 90 days. As a former police officer, do you think it is needed?

P.S.: There is a general consensus that these Bills should not be pushed in a hurry. Now that the Bills are in the public domain, let the general public comment on them.

As far as handcuffing is concerned, I don't think anyone understands how big of a concern it is for the police. It is alright for the Supreme Court to say in the *D.K. Basu vs State of West Bengal (1996)* case that people should not be handcuffed. But if you see the practice in many democratic countries, there are stringent provisions about handcuffing. I have seen heads of state being handcuffed. In India, even if a man is a member of the mafia, you can't handcuff him. And then why should you force me (the police) to touch somebody? He may be suffering from some skin disease. One doesn't know how filthy or dirty he [the accused] is, so I don't want to hold him by his hand.

S.A.: This (right to handcuffing) has become part of the actual provision in the Bill. So we have gone past the stage of debate. Case laws like *D.K. Basu* and *Kedar Nath Singh vs State Of Bihar (1962)* (judgment by the Supreme Court of India that upheld the validity of sedition), have set down some laws.

But the new Bill causes a rupture. This is a repeal and a revocation. This is not an amendment.

> Substantive sections have been jumbled which has caused more ambiguity and confusion. For instance, the Bill replaces sedition with 'subversive activities', which makes it very vague and broad
> **SHAHRUKH ALAM**

What would you say are the similarities between the existing laws and the new Bills?

S.A.: I think the new Bills are very similar to the existing laws. Violence is still going on and detention without charges is still going on. The Bills endorse, legitimise and formalise these practices, so there is no substantial departure. Substantive sections have been jumbled which has caused more ambiguity and confusion. For instance, the Bill replaces sedition with 'subversive activities', which makes it very vague and broad. Terrorist acts have also been defined under the new Bills, even though we have special legislation like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). Also, if you damage property, that could constitute a terrorist act. Another section talks about provocation and intimidation of the government. But anything can provoke the government, and that would be considered a terrorist act.

P.S.: A lot of it is old wine in new bottles. But of course, there are changes. The Bills have introduced certain new sections. For example, in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill, terrorism has been defined, organised crimes have been added, and sedition has been repealed. 'Subversive activities' have been added and it needs to be defined. There are new provisions regarding community service; mob lynching has been defined as an offence; stricter punishment has been proposed for crimes against women.

But what is worrying me the most is that the number of important sections have been changed. For example, Section 302 of the IPC will become Section 101 and Section 420 will become Section 316. For the last 164 years that we have had the IPC, these Sections are there in the public mind. The whole of India knows that Section 302 is murder, 420 is cheating, 379 is punishment for theft and 395 is punishment for dacoity. By changing the numerical figure, the documentation is going to be a huge problem in the National Crime Records Bureau and Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems. I wish some sections that are very common and are in the public consciousness are retained.

Usually, laws are changed when they become obsolete. Are there any provisions in the IPC, CrPC and the Indian Evidence Act that, according to you, are being misused?

P.S.: Certain sections are misused, but the misuse of an Act does not make it irrelevant. You have to find ways to prevent the misuse.

S.A.: The courts had already decriminalised consensual sex between adult gay men. Section 377 was read down but non-consensual sex was still an offence. However, the removal of the Section in the new Bill leaves no scope for prosecuting rape in the case of adult men, or transsexual people. The new rape provisions are gendered and apply only to women. Also, the new Bill reflects a lot of issues that have come up in political debates recently. For instance, mob lynching has been recognised as a separate offence in the new Bill and the sentence is seven years. It is a fact that people are being killed for who they are. But interestingly, again, it has become discretionary. The sentence ranges from seven years to life sentence and death.

On the other hand, Love Jihad, which has been defined as 'concealing your identity before marriage' in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill has been made into a separate offence and the sentence is 10 years. In the same Bill, sexual offences are a separate chapter, but that is limited to sexual offences with respect to women. It [the government] has forgotten about sexual offences perpetuated by men on men or women on women.

Are there welcome changes in the new Bills?

P.S.: Yes certainly. The fact that they have attempted to define terrorism, is a step in the right direction. It is good that organised crimes have been defined. Once the trial concludes, the judgment has to be given within 30 days and only two adjournments are allowed. I think these are welcome changes with the intention of expediting the criminal justice system.

S.A.: There are some provisions that say if you can't finish the trial within six months in petty offences, then that person will not be tried. So that is welcome. But this pertains to only petty offences and has not been linked with serious offences.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

Scarce news, fake news

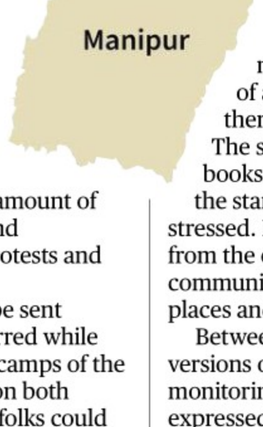
Amidst the violence in Manipur and with limited access to Internet, people had few sources to turn to for verified information

Alisha Dutta

The legwork for every ground report involves a fair deal of planning by the reporter in coordination with the local chauffeur. However, in the middle of a civil war in Manipur, one had to be extra cautious with the planning – every commute between the hills and the valley had to happen during daytime to ensure that the press/media tag on the car was visible from afar.

Discussing the next day's plan after wrapping up reporting the developments in Churachandpur, my Kuki-Zo driver said we will not be able to start early the next day. On enquiring, he said his Internet was no longer working. He had to travel for two hours to 'store some Internet'.

Shocked and intrigued in equal parts, I asked him how, even during an Internet ban, he was able to access the Internet. He then explained that every few days, his family and friends would travel in the car for two hours to the Manipur-Mizoram border. They would switch off their locations, turn on the data in their smartphones and access the Internet.



Before heading back they would spend a considerable amount of time browsing the Internet and downloading videos of the protests and atrocities.

These videos would then be sent through Bluetooth or transferred while accessing the Wi-Fi from the camps of the leaders. This would happen on both sides. In the valley, common folks could be seen visiting the locations of Meitei leaders or centres where the Wi-Fi was working. They would download videos from there, go back to camps, and share them with others. In both relief camps, displaced Meiteis and Kuki-Zos had access to videos of violence, but very few had access to non-partisan sources of news.

While speaking to these groups about the events that followed the May 3 violence, they showed pictures of deformed bodies and videos of houses being burnt. But none of these were captured by them. They would often struggle to point out the sources of these videos.

Some of these videos and photographs were later proved to be fake by media outlets outside the State.

Noises from smartphones would only convey partisan updates. For example, a displaced Meitei in Imphal Valley pointed to the news of Meitei women who were assaulted at the Churachandpur Medical College. The fact that this turned out to be fake news never reached him.

There has been very little choice in terms of what news people have had access to since a blanket ban on the Internet came into effect. The common man is privy to information that is shared with him by the higher-ups. The reality is that news and updates of events were often distorted. Information was distributed by those in positions of power, to shape a narrative that suited their convenience.

A Kuki student, who I met at one of the camps as I was filing my story, was watching a video of a Meitei influencer saying that there will be fireworks in August. The student, who had to set aside his books to monitor social media since the start of the violence, was visibly stressed. He spoke of how such videos from the opposing camp helped his community understand the possible places and time frames of attacks.

Between downloading the online versions of his college text and monitoring social media, the Kuki student expressed concerns about his academic future. The 21-year-old, who wanted to pursue his Masters degree from one of the universities in Delhi, had missed the deadline because of the ethnic clashes followed by the Statewide Internet ban.

If people continue to spread videos of violence – sometimes that of real events and many times fabricated ones, what purpose does an Internet ban really serve in the State?

alisha.d@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Clutching with all its might

A tree struggling in the floodwaters of the Ganga in Haridwar. Uttarakhand has been facing unprecedented rain followed by landslips all the way up to Joshimath and higher. The fragile ecology of the Garhwal Himalayas has been under stress for a number of years. ANI

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 18, 1973

Indo-Pakistan talks to-day

New Delhi, August 17,
The Indo-Pakistan official level talks will be resumed here to-morrow with both sides expressing cautious optimism about the outcome of these fateful negotiations which hold the key to peace and stability in the sub-continent. The leaders of the Pakistan delegation, Mr. Aziz Ahmed, said on his arrival this afternoon that he had come to Delhi on a mission of peace, fully conscious of the need to resolve the outstanding problems in the spirit of the Simla agreement.
He welcomed the approach of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Declaration in delinking the humanitarian problems from political issues, maintained that considerable progress was made at the talks in Rawalpindi and hoped that an agreement would be reached during this visit to Delhi. But he drew a subtle distinction between the intensely "human" problem of POW reparations and other humanitarian issues set out in the Indo-Bangla declaration. The Prime Minister's special envoy, Mr. P. N. Haksar, who is representing India at these talks, flew back from Dacca in time to welcome Mr. Aziz Ahmed and his colleagues.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 18, 1923

Singapore Base.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE)
LONDON, August 17.
Commenting that the announcement that the Trincomalee naval port is being re-established as an oil supply station for the Singapore fleet, the "Manchester Guardian" says if the battleship squadron is based at Singapore, it is likely that the supply that the base will need will be provided by Ceylon but if this is so, it confirms that the Singapore project will be more expensive than realised.

From Page One

Chandrayaan: key modules separate

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh on Thursday said the exclusive findings and inputs of Chandrayaan-3 would benefit the entire world community.

Speaking to the media after the successful separation of the two modules, Dr. Singh expressed confidence on a safe landing of the spacecraft on the moon surface.

He said, even though the USA and the then USSR had started their space journey long before us and America also landed a human being on the surface of moon in 1969, it was nevertheless our Chandrayaan that brought home the pictures of water on the surface of moon and startled the entire world, including the Americans.

Dr. Singh said that India will be the fourth country in the world to achieve this feat after the United States, Russia, and China, but India will be the only country in the world to land on the lunar south pole.

He said, every Indian and the whole world is watching every moment and waiting with bated breath for the final outcome.

Now, drones to monitor MGNREGS worksites

"For efficient monitoring and redressal of grievances, it is decided by the Ministry that the ombudsperson may use drone technology facilities for verification of the works virtually," the SOP further states.

It has directed State governments to provide the facility to ombduspersons, as needed.

However, the Union government is not providing the States with any extra funds to deploy these drones.

According to the guidelines, State governments are expected to draw the necessary funds from the administrative head, which is roughly 10% of a State's MGNREGA budget. Rather than purchasing drones, the Union government has directed States to hire agencies specialising in drones for this purpose.

The Ministry also proposes to form a centralised dashboard to store the videos and photos collected from the drones, for data analysis and reporting purposes.

This will be the second big technological intervention introduced to keep a check on MGNREGA workers. From May 2022, the Union government had made it mandatory to capture attendance at all worksites using a specially-developed mobile-based application.

Gang of four held for cheating senior citizen to pocket ₹3.5 crore

The fraud came to light when Ms. Shantha checked her account and was shocked to see the money missing and filed a complaint.

The police then tracked down the trail of the money and arrested Apoorva and her mother, Vishala, and recovered the money. A total of four persons have been arrested so far and as many as ₹1.75 crore have been recovered, P. Krishnakant, DCP, south division, said. Efforts are on to recover the rest of the money.

Mr. Krishnakant advised people to be careful while dealing with strangers and not discuss financial information.

Bescom helpline gets 1,089 Gruha Jyothi complaints in 16 days

Bescom has constituted a special complaint redressal team just for the Gruha Jyothi scheme at its corporate office. Mr. Bilagi said the team was involved in explaining the regulations to the consumers and ensuring that their issues are addressed.

Ganga K., a resident of East Bengaluru, said she called the helpline after she was charged in the electricity bill. "The executive patiently took down my details and explained to me why I was charged," she said.

74 lakh zero bills

From August 1, the five electricity supply companies (Escoms) started issuing zero bills under the scheme to domestic consumers. Till Thursday, 1,19,38,402 bills were issued to the beneficiaries of the scheme. Out of this, 74,08,769 received zero bills while 45,29,663 received non-zero bills.

"Around 62.06% of bills are zero bills. Even the ones who have received non-zero bills are beneficiaries of the scheme, but they have to pay the net amount (for consumption beyond entitled units)," Mr. Bilagi said.

Registration for the scheme continues to go strong even in August. Between July 28 and August 15, over 10.83 lakh consumers registered for the scheme, taking the total number of registrations to 1.51 crore from 1.4 crore. The Energy Department had earlier said that a total of 2.14 crore domestic consumers in the State would be eligible for the scheme.

Govt. employees in Manipur transferred to safer districts

10 Manipur MLAs write to PM demanding parallel administrative set-up in the hill districts, with a separate Chief Secretary, DGP; Imphal has become a 'valley of death' for Kuki-Zo people, they say

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

In violence-hit Manipur, over 2,000 government employees – including police personnel – were "transferred to districts where they would face no threats", according to a status report submitted by the State government in the Supreme Court earlier this month.

On Wednesday, 10 Manipur legislators, including those from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to demand separate or equivalent posts of Chief Secretary and Director-General of Police (DGP) for the five hill districts of Churachandpur, Kangpokpi, Chandel, Tengnoupal and Pherzawl, for efficient administration of Kuki-Zo tribals.

The legislators had earlier demanded a separate administration.

The Manipur government had submitted a status report which said that government employees had been transferred. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Since ethnic violence erupted between the communities in Manipur on May 3, a sharp divide has emerged in the functioning of government offices and the judiciary in the State.

Given that the hills are dominated by the Kuki-Zo tribes, while the Meitei people form the majority in the valley districts, officials of each community are unable to perform their duties in districts where the other is dominant.

Parallel set-up

Since most top State government offices – including the police headquarters, Secretariat and even the High Court – are located in the Imphal valley, the 10 legislators demanded a parallel set-up in the hills "to solve the problems faced by the government employees belonging to the Kuki-Zo tribals".

"It is also pertinent to mention here that even the IAS (Indian Administrative Service) and MCS (Manipur Civil Service) officers, and IPS (Indian Police Service) and MPS (Manipur Police Service) officers belonging to the Kuki- Zo tribes have been unable to function and discharge their duties, as Imphal valley has also become a valley of death for us," the representation to the Prime Minister said.

On August 1, the Manipur government submitted a status report in the Supreme Court which said that government employees had been transferred to districts where they face no threats.

The report also said that as many as 761 State police personnel had abandoned their posts or were absent from duty.

Bilkis Bano case: SC asks why remission policy is 'selective'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The State clarified the early release was not as per a circular allowing remission as part of the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Gujarat government whether its premature release policy for prisoners was applied only "selectively".

Justice B.V. Nagarathna shot the question at Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju, appearing for Gujarat, while hearing a series of petitions challenging the early release of 11 men who were sentenced to life imprisonment for gang-raping Bilkis Bano and murdering seven persons during the riots in Gujarat in 2002.

"Why is the policy of remission applied selectively? Opportunity to reform and reintegrate must be given to every prisoner, not only to a few prisoners," Justice Nagarathna queried.

The petitioners, including Ms. Bano, have challenged the release of 11 convicts under the State's Premature Release Policy of 1992. The writ petitions by CPI(M) leader Subhashini Ali, Trinamool Congress leader Mahua Moitra and others also challenged the early release of the convicts.

An affidavit by the State of Gujarat had revealed that while the Superintendent of Police, CBI, Special Crime Branch, Mumbai and the Special Judge (CBI) of Greater Bombay had opposed the premature release of the convicts, the Home Ministry had recommended it.

The State had clarified that, contrary to popular perceptions, the early release of the 11 convicts was not as per a circular allowing remission to prisoners as part of the celebration of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

President Murmu launches warship *Vindhyagiri*

A view of *Vindhyagiri* during its launch by the Kolkata-based Garden Reach Ship Builders and Engineers Ltd. DEBASISH BHADURI

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday launched *Vindhyagiri*, the last in the series of three Project 17A (Alpha) frigates built by the Indian Navy at the Kolkata-based Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).

Describing the development as a move forward in enhancing India's maritime capabilities, the President said that the launch was also a step towards achieving the goal of *Atmanirbhar Bharat* through indigenous shipbuilding.

President Murmu said that Project 17A, under which *Vindhyagiri* was developed, reflects the country's commitment to self-reliance and technological advancement.

"The President said that the security in the Indian Ocean Region and the larger Indo-Pacific has many aspects and the Navy has to always remain proactive in tackling security threats," a press statement by the Rashtrapati Bhavan said.

The President Murmu was joined by West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the event.

"Following the launch, *Vindhyagiri* will join its two sister ships at the Outfitting Jetty at GRSE, to progress remaining activities and equipment trials, in the run-up to their delivery and commissioning," said a pres statement by the Indian Navy.

CJI asks if petitioners want SC to assess govt.'s 'wisdom' in repealing Article 370

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday appeared unenthusiastic to accept an "invitation" to judicially review the "wisdom" behind the Union government's decision to dilute Article 370, which had given a special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Instead, the Constitution Bench said that its ambit lay in investigating whether the repeal of the provision in August 2019 amounted to a "constitutional violation".

"Are you inviting the court to review the wisdom of the decision of the Government of India on the abrogation of Article 370? Are you saying that judicial review should reassess the basis of the government decision that it was not in national interest to continue with Article 370?" Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud asked.

'Bereft of reasons'

The Chief Justice's queries came in response to submissions by senior advocate Dushyant Dave that the "whole exercise of abrogation of Article 370 was bereft of any reasons".

> Are you saying that judicial review should reassess the basis of the government decision that it was not in national interest to continue with Article 370?"
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

"Someone in the Home Ministry makes a statement that Article 370 impedes national integration... Nobody gives any details... This Article is not just a letter but the beliefs of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The repeal did not serve any purpose. Jammu and Kashmir was anyway an integral part of India," Mr. Dave said.

He said that the earlier judicial notion that the court should not be mindful of political decisions had been expressly rejected in recent precedents.

"But judicial review should be confined to constitutional violation undoubtedly," the Chief Justice insisted.

Mr. Dave said that his submissions were indeed based on the Constitution. All he wanted to know was what material had decided the President to declare an Emergency in Jammu and Kashmir and rescind Article 370 months later. "It was a fraud on the Constitution. The President exercising powers without any material whatsoever," he argued.

Mr. Dave argued that clause (3) of Article 370, which empowered the President to repeal the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, had "exhausted itself" with the dissolution of the Jammu and Kashmir Constituent Assembly in 1957.

When the Constituent Assembly dissolved in 1957 without abrogating Article 370, the President's power to repeal Article 370 died along with it, he said.

1957 impact

The Chief Justice then asked how successive Constitution Orders were passed, modifying the application of the provisions of the Indian Constitution to Jammu and Kashmir, that too for no less than 64 years, if Article 370 had indeed died in 1957.

The spirit of federalism in Article 370 could not have been "wished away" by President by declaring the entire provision otiose in 2019, Mr. Dave said.

Umar Khalid bail plea dropped from SC cause list

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Jawaharlal Nehru University student leader Umar Khalid's hopes for an effective bail hearing were dashed when his case was listed and then dropped from the Supreme Court cause list on Thursday.

The case had come up last on August 9 before a Bench of Justices A.S. Bopanna and P.K. Mishra. However, Justice Mishra recused himself, and the case was adjourned to August 17 to be heard by another combination of judges. On Thursday, however, the bail plea was listed again before Justices Bopanna and Mishra.

The bail petition has been listed since May this year. On July 12, a Bench of Justices Bopanna and M.M. Sundresh listed the case for July 24.

The case duly came up on July 24 before a Bench of Justices Bopanna and Bela M. Trivedi. However, Mr. Khalid's lawyer sought an adjournment.

When it came up next on August 9, Justice Mishra recused himself.

Khalid is accused under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, in a case linked to the 2020 Delhi riots case.

Pilot collapses at boarding gate, dies soon after

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An IndiGo pilot, Manoj Balasubramani, fell unconscious at a boarding gate of the Nagpur airport on Thursday and died soon after

He was rostered to operate a flight from Nagpur to Pune, along with three other flights. He was a resident of Chennai.

The pilot community demanded that the DGCA conduct a detailed investigation into the reasons for the death to ensure aviation safety and a relook at the rules governing pilot duty hours.

Stalin: If BJP returns to power, no one can save the country

L. Srikrishna
RAMANATHAPURAM

If the BJP returns to power at the Centre, no one can save the nation, DMK president and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said on Thursday. He urged DMK workers to ensure the victory of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) in the Lok Sabha election next year.

Addressing the DMK's 16,978 booth-level agents at a meeting here, he said the BJP government had failed miserably in every area. In Manipur, the maladministration of the Union and State governments had left an impact. "This is going to reflect in the Lok Sabha election," he said.

The emergence of INDIA had rattled the BJP. "You have the responsibility of taking the good things done by the DMK government to people. You must ensure a landslide for the party...," Mr. Stalin told the booth agents. He said the DMK was stronger by having kept the Assembly election promises in the last two years, and it would be much better placed when his government started giving ₹1,000 a month each to an estimated one crore women heads of families from September 14.

Brinda Karat moves SC against hate speech

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Communist Party of India (Marxist) leader Brinda Karat on Thursday sought permission to appear and produce in the Supreme Court the transcripts of hate speeches allegedly made by leaders of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal in various parts of Delhi.

The impleadment application has been jointly filed by Ms. Karat and Krishna Mohan Tiwari, the party's Delhi State Committee secretary. They are represented by advocate Subhash Chandran K.R.

Six people held for assaulting Dalit girl

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Six persons were sent to judicial custody on Thursday for allegedly assaulting a Dalit girl in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

The accused allegedly recorded the assault and circulated it on social media.

"All the six accused have been arrested," said Shailendra Singh, Additional Superintendent of Police.

APPEAL

Ms.Hajra Shaikh Inayat, Daughter of Shaikh Inayat Shaikh Musa 10 years admitted in Christian Medical College is suffering from Beta Thalassemia Major. This is a type of life threatening blood disorder. The best option for her would be to undergo Allogeneic Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Transplant (PBSCT). The estimated cost of PBSCT at this Hospital is approximately **Rs. 15,00,000**/-.

Please send donation however small and save the girl. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Hajra Shaikh Inayat, **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855, you can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

BJP announces first candidates list for Chhattisgarh, M.P. Assembly polls

List comes even before the formal announcement of elections in both States; while the list for Madhya Pradesh has 39 names, candidates were announced for 21 seats in Chhattisgarh; all were seats that the party lost in 2018 Assembly elections

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Taking the lead, the Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday announced the first list of candidates for the Assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh due later this year.

The names of the candidates were finalised at a meeting of its Central Election Committee that was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The meeting concluded late on Wednesday. Senior leaders from both the States were present.

The party announced candidates for 39 seats in the 230-member Madhya Pradesh Assembly and 21 for the 90-member House in neighbouring Chhattisgarh. All were seats that the party lost in the 2018 Assembly elections. In the party's own analysis, based on past electoral record and strength of party organisation there, these were 'C' and 'D' category seats where the party had either lost more than twice or had never won.

Poll bugle: The names were finalised at a meeting of the BJP's CEC chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday. PTI

The lists have come not just before similar announcements by its main rival, Congress, which rules Chhattisgarh and is in the Opposition in M.P., but even before the formal announcement of elections, which is perhaps a first in the party's history in the two States. Sources in the BJP said that by announcing the candidates much in advance in vulnerable seats, the party was trying to give the candidates enough time to make themselves acquainted with the local dynamics. Both the lists comprise candidates from different regions and those who will contest reserved seats. Sources in the two States added that winnability was the main criterion.

Uncle-nephew contest

In Chhattisgarh, the highlight of the BJP's first list is its attempt to corner Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel by fielding sitting Durg MP and former Congress leader Vijay Baghel from Patan, which the Congress leader represents now.

Sources within the BJP said the party believes that fielding Mr. Vijay Baghel is more suitable from a caste calculation point of view, a factor that can make the contest closer and compel the Chief Minister to spend more time in his own home turf on campaigning.

Mr. Vijay defeated Mr. Bhupesh in the 2008 Assembly election but lost to him in 2013.

Mr. Vijay, who is the Chief Minister's nephew, was denied ticket by the BJP in the 2018 Assembly polls. In that election, Mr. Bhupesh, as the Congress candidate, defeated the BJP's Motilal Sahu. However, in the Lok Sabha election that followed, Mr. Vijay, contesting on BJP ticket, emerged victorious from Durg, and secured a sizeable lead in the Patan Assembly segment as well.

The names announced for Chhattisgarh include 10 Schedule Tribe (ST) candidates and one Scheduled Caste (SC) candidate out of the 29 and 10 reserved seats for STs and SCs, respectively. There are six OBC candidates, and five women.

Vasundhara Raje left out of two BJP election panels for Rajasthan Assembly poll

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje was left out of two election-linked panels in Rajasthan on Thursday. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) announced the formation of an election management committee and an election manifesto committee for the coming Rajasthan Assembly election.

BJP State president C.P. Joshi and Leader of the Opposition Rajendra Rathore were also left out.

The 21-member election management committee will be headed by former MP Narayan Panchariya, while Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal will lead the election manifesto panel. The two committees were set up on the instructions of BJP national president J.P. Nadda.

Mr. Joshi, accompanied by BJP State in-charge Arun Singh, made the announcement at the party's State headquarters here. The party is likely to set up an election campaign committee and screening committee shortly to select candidates.

Vasundhara Raje

Ms. Raje's absence on the two committees has led to speculation about her role in the BJP's election strategy as well as doubts about her projection as the party's chief ministerial face. Sources in the BJP said Ms. Raje would be accommodated in the election campaign committee and get a role "befitting her stature".

Mr. Singh told presspersons that Ms. Raje, in her capacity as the BJP national vice-president, would campaign during the election. "She has a big role to play. She has been the Rajasthan Chief Minister twice," Mr. Singh said on Ms. Raje's absence from the committees.

Rajya Sabha Members Ghanshyam Tiwari and Kirodi Lal Meena, and former Union Minister and Jaipur Rural MP Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore were among those appointed to the panels.

The two other important party leaders not finding a place on the committees are Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Jodhpur MP, and former BJP State president Satish Poonia, who is the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the State.

BJP is busy campaigning while Manipur is burning: Kharge

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party for being busy with election campaign while "Manipur is burning". He urged Mahila Congress leaders to ensure that the Narendra Modi government is voted out in the 2024 Lok Sabha election.

Referring to the Prime Minister's Independence Day speech in which he had asserted that he would hoist the flag again next year, Mr. Kharge said, "I responded that, yes, he [Mr. Modi] will certainly hoist the National Fag, but at his residence."

He was addressing a convention of block presidents of All India Mahila Congress. Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal and Mahila Congress president Netta D'Souza were present.

'Protection for women'

"If Rahul Gandhi can go to Manipur, why can't the Prime Minister visit? What protection has the BJP provided to the women there? They are fleeing homes, getting disrobed, raped, and killed. And the BJP is busy campaigning in other States," Mr. Kharge said.

"Our party's women cadre will discuss ideas and strategies for the Lok Sabha elections in 2024 and I am certain they will oust the BJP government next year," he added.

Mr. Kharge said Mr. Modi had refused to come to the Rajya Sabha even once, but had been forced to address the Lok Sabha after the Opposition moved a no-confidence motion.

Noting that Mr. Modi always keeps asking, "*70 saal mein kya kiya?* (what have you done in 70 years?)", he said, "We protected the Constitution and kept democracy alive and that is why they [the BJP] are here... This fight is for the citizens. It is not our personal fight."

Congress makes Surjewala in charge of M.P.; Wasnik gets Gujarat's responsibility

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday named Randeep Surjewala as the party's new general secretary in charge of poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, and Mukul Wasnik for Gujarat. With the appointments, the spotlight is back on the delay in announcing a new Congress Working Committee (CWC).

Mr. Kharge had been authorised to nominate CWC members on February 24 at the Raipur Plenary session. However, he is yet to announce the party's highest decision-making body and is still functioning with the outgoing CWC or its Steering Committee.

Randeep Surjewala

Mr. Wasnik, once a part of the so-called G-23, a group that had revolted against the Congress leadership, will now replace Raghu Sharma as the general secretary in charge of Gujarat.

Mr. Surjewala has been given the responsibility for poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, in addition to his responsibility for Karnataka. In M.P., he replaces the party's senior leader from Delhi, Jai Prakash Aggarwal.

Mr. Surjewala – who had delivered Karnataka for the party by taking along different factions of the Congress and come up with innovative slogans such as "*40% sarkara*" [40% government] against the BJP government – will now be working alongside senior leaders like Kamal Nath and Digvijaya Singh, as the Congress seeks to wrest Madhya Pradesh from the BJP. Mr. Surjewala was recently appointed a senior election observer for the State.

Mr. Kharge appointed former MLA Ajay Rai – who unsuccessfully contested against Prime Minister Narendra Modi from Varanasi in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha election – as the president of the Uttar Pradesh Congress Committee, replacing Dalit leader Brijlal Khabri.

An organisational overhaul of the State units of the Congress is under way and more appointments are likely, a source said.

No meet with INDIA bloc leaders: Nitish

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Thursday categorically denied having had any scheduled meeting with the Opposition Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc leaders during his New Delhi visit.

Some reports said Mr. Kumar visited New Delhi on Wednesday to pay tributes to the late former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his death anniversary, and also to meet INDIA leaders. "There was no scheduled meeting with Opposition leaders in New Delhi," he said.

SP-RLD ties intact, says Akhilesh

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday said that the alliance with the Rashtriya Lok Dal was intact.

He said that with the backing of the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA), the alliance will sweep all 80 seats in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Mr. Yadav was speaking in Banda where he was addressing a Samajwadi Party workers camp. He alleged that the BJP had failed Uttar Pradesh on all fronts.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, KHORDHA (R&B) CIRCLE, KHORDHA
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Tender Call Notice E-mail: rbcirclekhurda@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CCE-Khordha (R&B) Circle - 10/2023-24 Memo No -1587 Dt.04.08.2023
The Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha on behalf of Governor of Odisha inviting percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Buildings work as detailed in the table below:

1.	Nature of Work	: Buildings Works
2.	No of Work	: 4 Nos
3.	Tender Cost	: Rs.10000.00 (On-Line)
4.	Class of Contractor	: A Class & B Class
5.	Available of Bid document in the Website	: From 10.00 AM of Dt.18.08.2023 up to 05.00 PM of Dt.31.08.2023 up to 5.00 PM
6.	Date of opening of Bid	: Dt 01.09.2023 at 11.30 AM
7.	The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Website:https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.	

Chief Construction Engineer, Khordha (R&B) Circle, Khordha
B-698 : OIPR-34127/11/0017/2324

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, नगर वृत, जोधपुर
क्रमांकः 1713 दिनांकः 03.08.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या : 5 वर्ष 2023-2024
NIB No. PWD2324A2103
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से **विभिन्न सड़क निर्माण कार्य** हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।
निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाईट **http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** व **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। कार्यवार यू.बी.एन. संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1. PWD2324WSOB09745
(विनीत गुप्ता) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
DIPR/C/11927/2023 सा.नि.वि. नगर वृत जोधपुर

भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
केन्द्रीय समुद्री मात्स्यिकी अनुसंधान संस्थान
Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute
CMFRI
(कृषि अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा विभाग, कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India)
पोस्ट बोक्स सं. 1603, एरणाकुलम नोर्थ पी.ओ., कोच्ची - 682 018, केरल, भारत
Post Box No. 1603, Ernakulam North P.O., Kochi - 682 018, Kerala, India
Phone: 91 484 2394867/2391407, Fax: 91 484 2394909/2396685, Email: director.cmfri@icar.gov.in, Web: www.cmfri.org.in
Celebrating 75 Glorious Years of Marine Fisheries & Mariculture Research
F.No.14-2/2023-Estt.II Dated:09.08.2023
ADVERTISEMENT
Application is invited from eligible candidates for filling up of **Assistant** (Pay Matrix Level-06) at ICAR-CMFRI, Kochi and its Regional Centres/Stations/KVKs of CMFRI by Deputation/ Permanent Absorption basis. The last date of receipt of the application is on 11.09.2023.
The text of advertisement, general instructions of the candidates, application form and other details may be downloaded from CMFRI website: **www.cmfri.org.in**
Sd/-
Hareesh Nair
Chief Administrative Officer (Sr. Grade)

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited.

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads in ABD area Under Smart City Mission (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kothuval to Sabhapathi Kovil Street (ID 41)				
1	Kothuval to Sabhapathi Kovil Street (ID 41)	2023_SCTLT_550644_3	Rs. 4,57,70,352/-	21-Aug-2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in**
(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit - 1 : Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist.
Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines)
Corporate Office : No. 67, Mount Road, Guindy,
Chennai - 600 032. Ph.: 044 - 22354430
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Work Description	Due date
232423 001859	Construction of Male bachelor's hostel at TNPL Unit - II	01.09.2023
232413 003385	Customs Clearance (CHA) & Transportation of Paper / Board in containers for export through Chennai / Kattupalli / Ennore / Tuticorin / Cochin Ports from TNPL Unit - I at Kagithapuram and Unit - II at Mondipatti.	31.08.2023
E-mail	232423001859 - pmd.civil.@tnpl.co.in 232413003385 - purchase.corp@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions, Tender Fee, EMD etc., are available in tender document at our websites : www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR/4567/Tender/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी पोर्ट, कोलकाता
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
(Formerly KOLKATA PORT TRUST)
Tender No.:SMPK/KDS/CIV/EOI/2776/48 dated 16.08.2023
SMP, Kolkata invites EOI for " Development of an extended Port Gate facility at Balagarh, West Bengal on DBFOT basis through PPP mode". Pre-EOI meeting: 31.08.2023 at 15.00 Hours. Last date of online Submission of EOI: 18.09.2023 up to 15.00 Hours. For details, please visit www.smportkolkata.shipping.gov.in and https://kopt.enivida.in.

IndianOil
CIN-L23201MH1959GOI011388
Marketing Division - Head Office
NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
NIT No./ Name of work
Ref. No. HO/MSG/EOI/EVCS/2023-24
Subject: Expression of Interest (EOI) for Shortlisting of Potential Partners/ Agencies for setting up Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) at Public Places, Workplaces, Residential Complex & Hubs
Downloading Period:
Starts on: 18.08.2023 at 11:00 Hrs
Ends on: 11.09.2023 at 15:00 Hrs
Contact Person: I.Aravind
Email id: aravindi@indianoil.in
Contact No: 022-26447582
Visit **https://iocletenders.nic.in** for downloading tender documents and participating in e-tenders
Note: Any addendum/Corrigendum/Sale Date Extension in respect of the tender shall be issued on our website **https://iocletenders.nic.in** only & no separate notification shall be issued in the press. Bidders are therefore requested to regularly visit our website to keep themselves updated.

STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI – 600 008
CIN U74999TN1971SGC005967
(ONLINE ONLY)
Tender Notice NIT.No.27/CD/T.No.27/2023-24 **Dt.16.08.2023**
For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, tenders are invited under "**Two Cover System**" through online only for the following work from **Class – I and above** State Level Civil Contractors registered in PWD / Highways / Any Department of Government of Tamil Nadu, Central Government Department, Tamil Nadu State Government Undertaking having experience in similar nature of works. Tenders will be received upto **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **25.09.2023** and the same will be opened at **15.30 Hrs** (as per server system clock) on **26.09.2023**.

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Construction of Plug & Play facility at SIPCOT Industrial Park, Perundurai	Rs.1579.00 lakhs (including GST @18%)	Rs.7,90,000/-*

* EMD should be paid through Online in the portal **(https://tntenders.gov.in)**
The tender Schedule can be Downloaded at free of cost from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in**
DIPR/4599/TENDER/2023 MANAGING DIRECTOR
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

SABARMATI RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. (SRFDCL)
2nd Floor, "Riverfront House",
Behind H.K. Arts College, Ahmedabad-380009
Websites : www.nprocure.com or www.ahmedabadcity.gov.in
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
SRFDCL invites e- tedner for the work of, **Manufacturing, Supplying, Fixing/ Installation/ Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance with required Electro-mechanical automation arrangement and required construction for fixing of rubber Membrane/ bladders for the proposed air filled rubber barrage and bridge at Sabarmati Riverfront Project, Ahmedabad across River Sabarmati at Torrent Power Plant on West Bank and Camp Sadar Bazar on East Bank.**
Bid document is available on web sites: **https://amc.nprocure.com** and Tender information is available on **www.ahmedabadcity.gov.in** and **www.sabarmatiriverfront.com.**
Last date for online bid submission is **12.10.2023,** Up to **16.00 Hrs.** Pre-bid meeting for the same will be held on **04.09.2023** at the office of SRFDCL at **3.00 p.m.**

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY
Civil Engineering Department
Tuticorin-628 004.
Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)
NIT No: E(C)-56/ 3 / 2023 – EST/ D. 2463 Dated: 17.08.2023
V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority Tuticorin is a Major Port under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. Government of India is one of the best run Ports in the Country with excellent Infrastructure such as Internal roads, Warehouses, Transit sheds, Open storage space, Truck parking facility, Power & Water Supply etc.,
Port is well connected to various cities in Tamil Nadu and the neighbouring states by Rail four lane National Highways (NH-7A and NH-45B and Airways, Port land totalling **101.60** Acres are available for lease on long term basis at very nominal lease rents for setting up of Industries including Green Ammonia / Green Hydrogen under CEU.
V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority invites Offers / Bids from the experienced reputed firms for **Allotment of Port land for 30 years lease period on upfront / Annual payment basis in V.O.Chidambaranar Port for promoting Industries under Costal Employment Unit (CEU) at Hare Island Ash Pond Area (Block - C)** as follows:-

Downloading of Tender document from website	From 18.08.2023 to 19.09.2023
Pre-bid Meeting	28.08.2023 at 15:00 hrs through video conference.
Last Date & Time of submission of Tender online	19.09. 2023 at 15:00 Hrs.
Opening of Technical Bid online Date &Time	19.09.2023 at 15:30 Hrs.

For Further details, Please visit www.vocport.gov.in and www.tenderwizard.com / VOCPT
CHIEF ENGINEER & ESTATE OFFICER

INBRIEF

NDMA starts testing cell broadcast technology

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has started testing the emergency cell broadcast technology developed by C-DoT that will alert people to natural disasters, a senior government official said on Thursday. A sample test message with the title, "Emergency alert: Severe", was sent to subscribers on Jio and BSNL networks on Thursday. Android phone users said that they had received the message. C-DoT Chief Executive Officer Rajkumar Upadhyay said the technology was currently available only with a foreign vendor and hence C-DoT was developing it in-house. "The trials will be conducted at a pan-India level," Mr. Upadhyay said. PTI

Anand Sharma seeks interim relief package for Himachal

In the wake of large scale destruction in Himachal Pradesh because of very heavy rainfall, senior Congress leader Anand Sharma on Thursday urged the Centre to immediately provide an interim relief package to the State. He also asked for a forensic audit of "indiscriminate" approvals and sanctions in cutting of hills and felling of trees and urged the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal to intervene. Mr. Sharma said the court and the NGT should review the guidelines, mandatory parameters and technology for all future projects cleared in the State. Mr. Sharma said Himachal Pradesh needs the nation's solidarity in this hour of crisis and non-partisan help to tide over the crisis.

Flood forecast app launched by Water Commission

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Central Water Commission on Thursday launched an app, called 'Floodwatch', which can forecast the chances of floods a day in advance. It also provides a seven-day advisory on the chances of floods at various stations in the country where the CWC maintains its measurement gauges.

Available on Google's Play Store, the app has a map of India with coloured circles at water stations across the country indicating the current risk of flooding. A 'green' circle indicates 'normal'; yellow, above normal; orange, 'severe'; and red, 'extreme'. Clicking on a circle shows the water level at the station, the danger level and warning level. The warnings are in English or Hindi with an option for a voice-enabled prompt.

"The app will also provide State-wise/basin-wide flood forecast up to 24 hours or flood advisory, up to seven days, that can be accessed via selecting specific stations," the Jal Shakti Ministry said in a statement. Satellite data analysis, mathematical modelling and real-time monitoring are used to provide the forecast.

With huge allocation, tech. will transform judiciary, says CJI

Union Budget had announced the launch of Phase 3 of the e-courts project — with an outlay of ₹7,000 crore — to interlink courts across India

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud on Thursday said a "huge budget" allotted for the third phase of the e-courts project would see technology make inroads into the working of the judiciary, especially the lower courts.

The Chief Justice was reacting to senior advocate Dushyant Dave's remark that lower courts needed a technological boost.

The top judge, heading a Constitution Bench hearing the challenge to the dilution of Article 370, narrated in open court about how, during the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the High Courts was left in a quandary with no funds to buy videoconferencing software. "There was a total shutdown at the time, but we had to run the courts," he said. Some of the software licences in the Supreme Court were transferred to that High Court.

"But now we have a huge budget... we are working on it [making lower courts technology-friendly]," the Chief Justice said.

> There was a total shutdown during the pandemic, but we had to run the courts ... But now we have a huge budget... we are working on it
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

This year, the Union Budget had announced the launch of Phase 3 of the e-courts project with an outlay of ₹7,000 crore, while the first two phases of the project were planned and executed with an overall budget of ₹639.411 crore and ₹1,670 crore, respectively.

In his Independence Day address, Chief Justice Chandrachud said Phase 3 of the project sought to interlink courts across the country, besides setting up the infrastructure of paperless court, digitisation of court records, and opening of advanced e-Sewa Kendras in court complexes.

The success of virtual courts and the necessity, witnessed during the pandemic, of embracing technology in efficient justice administration had triggered a rise in the budget for the third phase of the project.

The Policy and Action Plan document of the e-committee of the Supreme Court headed by the Chief Justice had described the e-court plan as an "integrated mission mode project" to help in the judiciary's efforts to "transform itself by implementing tools and means of Information and Communication Technology".

The e-courts project aims to develop a hybrid model, allowing for physical and virtual courts to co-exist.

WHO chief asks nations to unlock power of traditional medicine

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
GANDHINAGAR

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), on Thursday urged countries to work towards unlocking the power of traditional medicine and provide evidence and action-based suggestions that could be interpreted into a global strategy.

He was speaking at the WHO's first global summit on traditional medicine as part of the G-20 Health Ministers' meeting in Gandhinagar.

"I hope that the Gujarat Declaration will integrate use of traditional medicines in national health systems, and help unlock the power of traditional medicine through science," Dr. Ghebreyesus said at the event, co-hosted by the Ayush Ministry.

Addressing the meeting, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said that the G-20 nations could collectively work towards achieving the UN's health-related Sustainable Development Goals while fostering an ethos of "One earth, one family, one future".

"In modern times, the demand for natural and herbal-based pharmaceuticals and cosmetics underscores the enduring significance of traditional healing practices," he said.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Dr. Mandaviya said the WHO's Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, with its headquarters in Jamnagar, Gujarat, accelerates advancements in traditional medicine globally. The Health Minister conducted bilateral meetings with several G-20 members.

He launched the Advantage Healthcare India portal for an upcoming exhibition and meet on medical value travel. Dr. Mandaviya said medical value travel would enable greater knowledge-sharing, sustainable partnerships and increased synergies.

Dr. Ghebreyesus said that by leveraging medical value travel, countries could offer specialised resources and services that may not be available, affordable, or accessible in other parts of the world.

Kalka-Shimla heritage railway line will be out of service for a few weeks

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

The 94-km Kalka-Shimla railway line will be out of service for three or four weeks to carry out repairs after heavy rain and floods battered the UNESCO World Heritage Site, Divisional Railway Manager (Ambala) Mandeep Singh Bhatia said on Thursday.

Back-to-back floods, first in July and then in August, has led to stoppage of services along the route. The damage to railway infrastructure on the route is estimated at around ₹15 crore.

"Since July, the route has seen over 150 disruptions in patches due to hill slips, falling boulders, falling trees, deposition of debris on tracks, damage to abutments, collapse of culverts and so on," Mr. Bhatia told *The Hindu*.

Eroded bulwark: A portion of the Shimla-Kalka heritage rail track damaged in the torrential rain in Himachal Pradesh. REUTERS

The Kalka-Shimla railway line is divided into four parts – Kalka to Koti, Koti to Barog, Barog to Solan and Solan to Shimla. The first flood that inundated the route on July 9 and 10 caused 137 disruptions, of which 110 were set right, Mr. Bhatia said.

"After the July flood receded, we were able to make the Solan-Shimla stretch functional, but we have again shut down the route after the floods of August 14," he said. After the landslips near the Summer Hill station led to the collapse of a 19-metre-long arch bridge, the Railways had to stop operations on the Solan-Shimla stretch.

Ram Jhula suspension bridge in Rishikesh damaged amid floods

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Ram Jhula suspension bridge – a prominent landmark of Rishikesh town in Uttarakhand – was closed to two-wheelers on Thursday, following reports of cracks around its abutments.

The bridge is built across the Ganga, which is flowing near the danger mark following heavy rain in the State.

'Soil erosion'

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Narendra Nagar Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Devendra Negi said the heavy rain had probably caused soil erosion after which the foundation of the bridge reportedly started developing cracks.

"Our teams are already at the spot, inspecting the causes and extent of damage. *Prima facie*, nothing is very serious but we have restricted commute on the bridge," Mr. Negi said.

Hanging by a thread: The Ram Jhula bridge across the Ganga in Rishikesh has developed cracks during the recent heavy rain. ANI

Pedestrians allowed

The district administration said pedestrians were allowed on the bridge to a limited extent, but bicycles and two-wheelers would be barred until the repairs are over.

Local people and tourists, however, choose not to take the bridge as a precaution.

The district administration has assigned engineers from the Public Works Department to inspect the bridge and submit a report.

The Meteorological Department has issued an yellow alert for seven districts of Uttarakhand for the next 24 hours.

There is possibility of heavy rain with thunder and lightning in Dehradun, Tehri, Pauri, Nainital, Bageshwar, Champawat, and Pithoragarh.

Over 35 years old

Constructed in 1986, the Ram Jhula suspension bridge is 220.4 metres long and 2 metres wide. It rests on 24 ropes of 44-mm diameter.

This runs parallel to Laxman Jhula, an older suspension bridge built by the British in 1930 which has been shut since 2022 in view of safety issues.

Since then, local people and pilgrims have been depending on the Ram Jhula.

The government is constructing Bajrang Setu as an alternative to Lakshman Jhula. It is expected to be completed soon.

Man from China makes off with crores in betting con

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

A Chinese national allegedly duped around 1,200 people and swindled several hundred crore rupees through a football betting app he had apparently created in Gujarat along with a few local people who collaborated with him.

The police have arrested nine persons in connection with the scam allegedly carried out last year.

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has named the Chinese national Woo Uyanbe, alias Chember, as one of the accused and the agency filed a chargesheet in March.

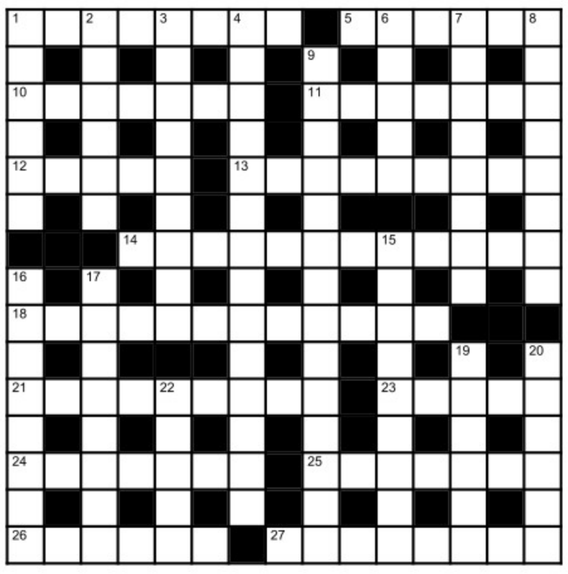
According to sources, a lookout circular has been issued against the man who is said to have left India.

TH CROSSWORD + 13947

(set by Dr. X)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Fancy oriental top picked up by exotic miss (8)
5 Couple in drive back getting more intimate (6)
10 Arrogance starting to hurt influential film director (7)
11 Wanting strong spotlight over finest sea animal (7)
12 Doctor conducting operation pondered (5)
13 Adjusting mask, thief improvised (9)
14 Tipsy on wine, Michael wastes money occasionally (4,2,1,5)
18 What overworked employee might say to boss? I don't believe it! (4,2,1,5)
21 Delivering money after a son's cruelly abducted by gang (9)
23 Letters from Benjamin Franklin below (5)
24 Old Turkish official abandoned fief, accepting doom (7)
25 Cheer with delight, securing victory after bit of effort (7)
26 Recruit in line, exercising on street (6)
27 Easiest if female leaves rogue, in my opinion (2,1,3,2)

Down

1 Unearth drone in old base (6)
2 Trouble controlling oxygen flow (6)
3 Avoiding husband slyly, nympho used false name (9)
4 Extraordinary therapist I use to tackle onset of mental illness (5,9)
6 Nervous at first after a group raised stakes (5)
7 Complete rogue, drunk outside club on island (8)
8 Flower-shaped decorations arranged in new store (8)
9 Relatives urge to take right move, upset after dispute over unfinished project (4,2,8)
15 Caution about drug for fatigue (9)
16 Uncontrolled rage gives endless distress (8)
17 Memorable time with fellow in fantastic venue by lake (8)
19 Lady cuddled by a celebrity, getting aroused (6)
20 Most recent ordeal after gangster returned (6)
22 Grunts leaving bar, awfully stinko (5)

SUDOKU

			4	3			8	
9	6				1	4		
4		8	7		6		9	
7								
	9						1	
								5
	3		5		2	9		6
		9	3				5	8
	5			6	4			

No.SS5892 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

C	A	T	A	S	T	R	O	P	H	E			
H		A		T		O		L		V		H	O
E	P	I	S	O	D	E		Y	E	A	R	E	N	D
C		N		P		B		W		D		R	D
K	O	T	O	W		U	D	O	M	E	T	E	R	S
M				A		C		O				U	
A	P	A	R	T		K	I	D	N	A	P	P	E	D
T		I		C						N		O	E
E	A	R	T	H	W	O	R	M		T	E	N	E	T
		P				R		A		I				R
C	R	O	C	H	E	T	E	R		P	O	O	R	I
O		R		Y		O		I		A		R	M
A	N	T	H	I	L	L		M	A	S	S	I	V	E
T		S		N		A		B		T		B		N
				G	E	N	E	A	L	O	G	I	S	T

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	6	3	5	2	4	9	8	1
9	8	2	3	1	6	4	5	7
5	1	4	7	9	8	2	3	6
8	2	6	4	7	1	5	9	3
1	9	7	2	3	5	6	4	8
3	4	5	8	6	9	7	1	2
6	7	1	9	5	3	8	2	4
4	3	9	6	8	2	1	7	5
2	5	8	1	4	7	3	6	9

FAITH

The quality of mercy

Fear is a major factor in human life. We fear something or the other all the time. There are very few exceptions to this. And while we fear many things, our greatest fear is that some harm will come to us, which will result in our death. But those who have love towards all living things, do not care about their own lives. Their quality of mercy shields them from fear, R. Narayanan said in a discourse. This idea is expressed by Thiruvalluvar, who says that he who cares for others does not worry about himself.

For a householder, it is love that holds things together, and makes sure that the family does not fall apart. For a sanyasi, it is the quality of mercy that is most essential. Thiruvalluvar says that only he who is considerate towards all can be considered a virtuous man.

Being merciful, having a forgiving nature and being empathetic help us in many ways. Apart from conferring peace of mind on the one who has such qualities, they also earn for him the love and respect of others. If a man has such virtues, then even an enemy will hesitate to harm him and will, in course of time, become well disposed towards him. Anger makes us nurture grievances, but if we learn to forgive those who offend us and move on, then they will become ashamed of their conduct, and approach us with apologies and perhaps even affection.

INBRIEF

'Batik Air to resume daily flights from KL to Chennai'

Batik Air, a subsidiary of Indonesia's Lion Air Group, will be resuming daily flight service between Kuala Lumpur and Chennai from August 24, said a senior airline executive. "With this, we will now be operating 42 weekly flights to eight Indian cities," Suresh Vanan, head, Marking Communications and Promotions said in an interaction. "The flights between India cities and Malaysia was discontinued during March 2020 due to the pandemic," he said.

ONGC to invest ₹1 lakh crore to achieve low-carbon energy

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) said it will be investing ₹1 lakh crore by the end of this decade in low-carbon energy opportunities, as it looks to transform into a low-carbon energy player. "ONGC has aligned itself with India's ambitious goals and is wholeheartedly contributing to the nation's aim to curtail carbon emissions by 1 billion tonne and simultaneously reduce carbon intensity by 45% by 2030," the company said. PTI

SMC Capitals ties up with Translink for global outreach

SMC Capitals, an investment bank, has announced collaboration with Translink Corporate Finance, a global mergers and acquisition group, to offer Indian companies a global platform for M&A opportunities. "This new partnership with Translink Corporate Finance will allow SMC to open a myriad of opportunities for Indian companies seeking global alliances through Translink's strong presence across Europe, Asia and the Americas," said Shweta Aggarwal, director, SMC Capitals.

'Supply shocks not over, inflation to be well above 6% in Q2'

Shadow of El Nino looms over the second half and the outcome for food inflation in *rabi* season, officials caution in an article in the RBI Bulletin

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The incidence of supply shocks was not over and the elevation in vegetable prices had extended into the first half of August, RBI officials wrote in an article in the RBI Bulletin released on Thursday, cautioning that "accordingly, headline inflation is expected to average well above 6% in the second quarter'.

"The shadow of El Nino looms over the second half of the year and the outcome for food inflation in the *rabi* season," the officials headed by Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra noted in the article on the 'State of the Economy' in the August edition of the monthly bulletin. "Yet another upside risk is the outlook on crude oil prices that is marred by 'engineered' supply shortfalls," they observed, referring to production cuts by key OPEC+ suppliers. "There is a diminishing probability of crude price pressures easing over the rest of the year. This bodes ill for net energy importers like India," they warned.

NSO data released on Monday showed retail inflation was estimated to have accelerated sharply to a 15-month high of 7.44% in July. And just last week, the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee had forecast inflation to average 6.2% in the ongoing July to September quarter.

"The uptick in inflation in its June reading mutated in July, with the unprecedented shock to tomato prices spilling over to prices of other vegetables," the officials wrote, adding that the surge in headline inflation had been exacerbated by a sequential increase of 4.3% in electricity prices. "Notably, however, core inflation eased in July, extending a softening bias that set in from February," they noted.

Urging sweeping supply-side reforms to ward off such price shocks in the future, the officials wrote: "The vulnerability of the economy to recurring incidence of vegetable price shocks, especially ahead of and during the monsoon, warrants major reforms in perishable supply chains covering transportation networks, warehousing and storage technologies, and value addition processes that damp the amplitude of these swings."

'Build up insulation'

"Stable prices for consumers, assured supplies and remunerative proceeds for farmers will follow when these reforms lead to efficiency and productivity gains while preserving the quality of output and building up insulation against food inflation from climatic events," the central bank officials wrote.

"The commitment to remain anti-inflationary should quell threats to macroeconomic stability and help anchor expectations. In fact, households expect inflation to edge down over the year ahead. This is also reflected in the latest round of the consumer confidence survey with regard to the price situation," the RBI officials added.

Price watch

Incidence of supply shocks not over and elevation in vegetable prices has extended into the first half of August: RBI officials

- Another upside risk is crude oil prices, they note, citing the OPEC+ production cuts
- There is a diminishing probability of crude price pressures easing over rest of the year, they add
- Note that core inflation eased in July, extending a softening bias

'Retail inflation to fall below 7% in August'

Reuters
MUMBAI

India's annual retail inflation in August is expected to fall below 7% after unexpectedly rising to a 15-month-high of 7.44% in July, an economist at Motilal Oswal said on Thursday.

Retail inflation rose as of last count as prices of vegetables and cereals skyrocketed, beating all expectations and putting pressure on the government to bring down prices.

"I think we must look at the drivers of higher inflation in India and not unnecessarily be worried about vegetable-led headline data," Nikhil Gupta, economist, institutional equities research at Motilal Oswal, said in an interview.

Mr. Gupta was the only economist who forecast July's retail inflation above 7% in the Aug. 3-8 Reuters poll of 53 economists. He expects vegetable prices to keep inflation elevated in August though the headline number would be below 7%, before slipping under 6% in September.

India said to consider Russia wheat import at rebate to cool price

Reuters
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

India is in talks with Russia to import wheat at a discount to surging global prices in a rare move to boost supplies and curb food inflation ahead of State and national polls next year, sources said.

This would allow India to intervene more effectively in the market to tame wheat prices that stoked inflation to a 15-month high in July. Although India needs only 3-4 million metric tonne of wheat to plug the shortfall, New Delhi might consider importing

8-9 million tonne to have a bigger impact on prices.

Wholesale wheat prices in India surged about 10% over two months to a seven-month high in August on limited supplies. Stocks at government warehouses were at 28.3 million tonne on August 1, 20% below the 10-year average.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,151	-0.59
US Dollar	83.09	-0.01
Gold	59,300	-0.50
Brent oil	84.45	-0.38

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2479.70	34.60
Adani Ports	809.65	33.55
Apollo Hosp	4892.75	-49.15
Asian Paints	3183.25	-10.80
Axis Bank	936.55	3.50
Bajaj Auto	4657.85	57.25
Bajaj Finserv	1476.85	7.00
Bajaj Finance	6923.25	-58.25
Bharti Airtel	856.70	-0.25
BPCL	356.95	-0.95
Britannia Ind	4501.60	3.10
Cipla	1241.00	-2.55
Coal India	232.30	-0.75
Divis Lab	3654.75	-57.35
Dr Reddys Lab	5880.65	22.80
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	261.85	0.00
Eicher Motors	3298.45	-28.75
Grasim Ind	1800.85	-16.05
HCL Tech	1176.70	-0.45
HDFC Bank	1597.30	-8.90
HDFC Life	628.40	3.25
Hero MotoCorp	2991.05	9.30
Hindalco	447.60	2.40
Hind Unilever	2543.25	-9.35
ICICI Bank	951.65	-4.85
IndusInd Bank	1374.30	-6.40
Infosys	1411.55	-6.95
ITC	441.00	-9.25
JSW Steel	789.75	-5.55
Kotak Bank	1765.70	-20.50
L&T	2652.50	-38.55
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5097.55	-100.35
M&M	1573.50	2.90
Maruti Suzuki	9375.30	-44.25
NestleIndia	21667.45	-280.45
NTPC	215.75	-1.70
ONGC	177.75	-1.30
PowerGrid Corp	243.70	-4.35
Reliance Ind	2538.00	-37.15
SBI Life	1284.45	-6.85
State Bank	572.15	6.80
Sun Pharma	1144.80	1.15
TataConsumerProduct	844.25	3.55
Tata Motors	613.75	-5.00
Tata Steel	116.05	0.10
TCS	3435.75	-22.65
Tech Mahindra	1231.75	3.90
Titan	3071.75	60.65
UltraTech Cement	8207.35	-44.55
UPL	584.95	-4.85
Wipro	417.55	-1.10

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 17

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.95	83.27
Euro	90.25	90.60
British Pound	105.72	106.13
Japanese Yen (100)	56.77	56.99
Chinese Yuan	11.39	11.44
Swiss Franc	94.35	94.72
Singapore Dollar	61.01	61.26
Canadian Dollar	61.38	61.62
Malaysian Ringitt	17.83	17.91
Australian Dollar	53.30	53.51

Source:Indian Bank

Shriram AMC to introduce multi-asset allocation fund

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Shriram Asset Management Co., a part of Shriram group, will unveil Shriram Multi-Asset Allocation Fund on Friday. The fund will close on September 1.

The open-ended scheme will invest in equity, debt and money-market securities and gold/silver exchange-traded funds, according to the company.

The minimum lumpsum investment is ₹5,000 while for systematic investment plan it is ₹1,000 per month or ₹3,000 per quarter, the company said. There is no lock-in period.

The fund offers the investor, the benefit of long-term capital gains tax at 10% if they cross ₹1 lakh in such gains in a fiscal year.

'Apparel market to remain sluggish amid anaemic demand'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Gokaldas Exports Ltd., a Bengaluru-based garment manufacturer and exporter, said demand for apparel would remain sluggish during the first half of FY24 as the global economy continued to be anaemic.

In his market commentary, Sivaramakrishnan G, MD, Gokaldas Exports said global retail offtake has been slow during the first quarter of FY24, resulting in overall imports of major consuming markets like the U.S., U.K. and the EU declining significantly.

"Apparel import data showed a year-over-year decline for April and May 2023 of 26% for the U.S. and 20% for U.K. and Europe. Weak retail demand in autumn winter '22 due to inflationary trends, high interest rates and a mild winter contributed to excess inventory impacting offtake this year," he elaborated in a regulatory filing.

While the global economy remained anaemic, the good news was that it could only get better, Mr. Sivaramakrishnan said adding, "We are optimistic about revival of the business in H2."

Dr. Agarwal's Health Care raises ₹650 cr. from investors

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Dr Agarwal's Health Care Ltd. has raised ₹650 crore from existing investors TPG Growth and Singapore's Temasek to double its hospital network to 300 in the next three years.

"In 12 months, global investors invested ₹1,050 crore and ₹650 crore in two tranches in our company," Dr. Agarwal's Group of Eye Hospitals Chairman Amar Agarwal said.

"We will be spending over ₹1,200 crore to set up hospitals in India and Africa and for buying latest technologies for super-speciality eye care." The firm ended FY23 with ₹1,500 crore in turnover. It is eyeing ₹2,500 crore by FY26, CEO Adil Agarwal said.

Axis Bank to provide loans via RBI platform

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Days after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a pilot for the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC), Axis Bank Ltd. has announced two lending products—Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and unsecured MSME loans—to small businesses which will be processed through PTPFC.

PTPFC has been the rolled out by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to facilitate quick appraisal and disbursal of credit. Axis Bank said both the products will be offered in a completely digital manner and will require no submission of documents by customers.

"The platform will bring immense efficiency in the lending process in terms of reduction of costs, quicker disbursement, and scalability," Rajiv Anand, Deputy MD, Axis Bank said.

Samsonite embarks on ₹160-cr. expansion plan

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Having achieved 100% capacity utilisation of 5 lakh units of luggage suitcases a month, Samsonite South Asia Pvt. Ltd. (Samsonite India), a subsidiary of American luggage major Samsonite Inc., said it has embarked on a ₹160-crore expansion plan to take the monthly production capacity to 7.5 lakh units by the end of 2024.

To be 100% funded from internal accruals, the expansion will completely occupy the entire vacant land at the company's factory in Nashik, Maharashtra. Hence, the company would have to look for an additional site to achieve its plans to have 1 million unit per month production capacity by January 2026.

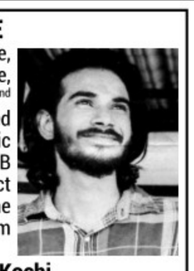
"Our decision to expand and invest in the Nashik plant is a landmark decision as far as India's growth story is concerned," said CEO Jai Krishnan. "In 2020, we were at a crossroads due to COVID," he said.

"Today, business has bounced back so much that demand has outstripped supply and we are running short despite expanding capacity during COVID time," he added.

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 14-08-2023 to 16-08-2023
State Water Transport Department
Tender ID: 2023_SWTD_586138_2 * Director * PURCHASE OF 100PAX SOLAR BOATS * Closing Date: 30-Aug-2023 * PAC: Rs98000000
Tender ID: 2023_SWTD_586246_2 * Director * PURCHASE OF 80PAX SOLAR BOATS * Closing Date: 30-Aug-2023 * PAC: Rs94000000
Visit https://etenders.kerala.gov.in for more details.
Ro.No:14-16/Aug/2023/PRD/(N)8

Office of the Additional Chief Engineer, PWD, Zone, Ajmer
No.:-ACE/AJ/TECH/F2(30A-Ajmer)/D-1711 Date:-07.08.2023
NIB No.:-PWD2324A2182
Notice Inviting Bid No. 18/2023-24
Bids for 02 No. Works are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM on Monday 21 August 2023. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the State; and DIPR departmental website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 1829.66 Lacs.
UBN No.:- PWD2324WLOB10001 & PWD2324WLOB10002.
(Vikas Dixit),
Additional Chief Engineer,
DIPR/C/11742 PWD, Zone, Ajmer.

LOOK OUT NOTICE
Don Jose, Son of Johnson, Balayil House, Mundamveli Boundari Desom, Palluruththi Village, Kochi Taluk, Ernakulam district, Kerala is 2nd accused to be arrested in narcotic case registered in the Excise Enforcement & Anti Narcotic Special Squad Office as NDPS CR 74/2022 (ECB 03/2022) U/s 22(c), 20 (b)(ii)A & 29 of NDPS Act 1985 which is investigated by the Excise Crime Branch. If you have any information about him inform to the following Phone numbers.



Joint Excise Commissioner, Kochi
Phone:0484-2396500, Mob: 9400068950
Assistant Excise Commissioner, Kochi
Phone:0484-2396500, Mob: 9400068960
(RO/01973/F2/2023/I&PRD)

Government of Rajasthan
Local Self Government Department
(Directorate of Local Bodies, Rajasthan, Jaipur)
G-3, Rajmahal Residency, Near Civil lines, Railway Crossing, Jaipur
Tel. No. +91 141 2222469, Fax No.: +91 141-2222403, Website: www.lsg.urban.rajasthan.gov.in
No. F 55()PA/CE/DLB/CM-Budget/C&D waste/2023/56301 Date: 24.07.2023
Notice Inviting Bids
UBN No. DLB2324WLOB14457
Online Technical and Financial Bids in Single State two envelops are invited on behalf of Governor of Rajasthan by Directorate of Local Bodies for Establishment of C&D waste processing plants in 3 cities up to 24.08.2023.
Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the Procurement Portal (http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) of the State, and LSG Department website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 7.50 Cr.
DIPR/C/11450/2023 Director cum Special Secretary

RAJASTHAN POLICE
STATE CRIME RECORDS BUREAU
Ref. No.-S-10(17)SCRB/CCTNS/Desktop-Printer/AMC/2023-00374/00426 Date:-04-08-23
Notice Inviting Bid
Rajasthan Police invites bid from eligible bidders for the following item:

ITEM	Estimates Cost (In Rs.)
RFP for AMC of Workstations for 1 year in Rajasthan	1,58,11,339.00/-

Interested bidders may visit & download RFP comprising of details from https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://police.rajasthan.gov.in portals from 04-08-2023 6:55 PM and submit the same till 24-08-2023 at 02.00 PM. And Opened tender same date 24-08-2023 at 4.00 PM.
UBN-CRB2324SLOB00013
(Sharat Kaviraj)
Inspector General of Police,
DIPR/C/11673 SCRB, Rajasthan, Jaipur

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE(CTD)/WBSETCL/PROCUREMENT/2023-24/3 Date: 18.08.2023
The Chief Engineer (CTD) invites e-Tender for design, supply, testing & commissioning of 05 nos. Bus Bar Differential Protection Panels including main & auxiliary relays for successful commissioning at different sub-stations of WBSETCL. Bid documents can be downloaded from 18.08.2023, 06:00 P.M. and bids shall be submitted (online) up to 11.00 A.M., 15.09.2023.
Visit the following websites:- https://www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details.
ICA- T16743(3)/2023

Request for Proposal (RFP)
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK
keralaIT
RFP No: 91/2023-24
Proposals are invited from Technical Consultants for providing 'Consultancy Service Contract for the preparation of Masterplan for Technopark Phase IV Campus (Technocity)'.
For further details, please visit https://www.technopark.org/tenders
Date: 14.08.2023 Chief Executive Officer
Trivandrum Technopark
RO/01965/D3/2023/I&PRD

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSEDCL
Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700 091
CIN: U40109WB2007SGC113473, www.wbsedcl.in
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
e-Tender-cum-e-Reverse Auction No.: WBSEDCL/PT&P/e-NIT/03/2023 Dt.: 18.08.2023 is invited by the Chief Engineer (PT&P), WBSEDCL, Vidyut Bhavan, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700091, for purchase of power on Short Term Basis for the period from 1st April, 2024 to 30th June, 2024, through Traders/Licensees/Bidders. Interested parties may download the tender documents from the website https://www.mstcecommerce.com directly with the help of Digital Signature Certificate from 11:00 hrs. of 18.08.2023 and submit the same on or before 17:00 hrs. of 24.08.2023.
For details, visit www.wbsedcl.in
ICA- T16755(3)/2023

RAJASTHAN POLICE
STATE CRIME RECORDS BUREAU
Ref. No.-P-11(2)tcg/TRG/Part-III/00002/2022/00412 Date:-04-08-23
Notice Inviting Bid
Rajasthan Police invites bid from eligible bidders for the following item:

ITEM	Estimates Cost (In Rs.)
RFP for providing Training for Technical core group (DoIT&C and Police personnel), Rajasthan	1,03,84,000.00/-

Interested bidders may visit & download RFP comprising of details from https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and http://police.rajasthan.gov.in portals from 04-08-2023 6:55 PM and submit the same till 24-08-2023 at 02.00 PM. And Opened tender same date 24-08-2023 at 4.00 PM.
UBN-CRB2324SLOB00011
(Sharat Kaviraj)
Inspector General of Police,
DIPR/C/11676 SCRB, Rajasthan, Jaipur

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
DATE CORRIGENDUM
E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project

SL. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
Selection of Contractor for Execution of Electrical, Fire and HVAC works at ICCC Building, Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation & Procurement of 30 Nos E Scooter including comprehensive 3 year warranty with Training and Maintenance in Thiruvananthapuram India				
1	Selection of Contractor for Execution of Electrical, Fire and HVAC works at ICCC Building, Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation	2023_SCTLT_594369_1	Rs. 1,74,44,174/-	23 Aug-2023 10.30 Am
2	Procurement of 30 Nos E Scooter	2023_SCTLT_593206_1	Rs. 51,65,820/-	23 Aug-2023 10.30 Am

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e- mail.
All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in
(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

JERUSALEM

Israel says U.S. okays 'landmark' missile defence deal with Germany

AP

Israel said the United States on Thursday approved the "landmark" sale of the Arrow 3 hypersonic missile defence system to Germany, in the country's biggest military deal worth $3.5 billion. The Arrow 3 system — designed to shoot down ballistic missiles above the Earth's atmosphere — is jointly developed by Israel and the U.S. AFP

TRIPOLI

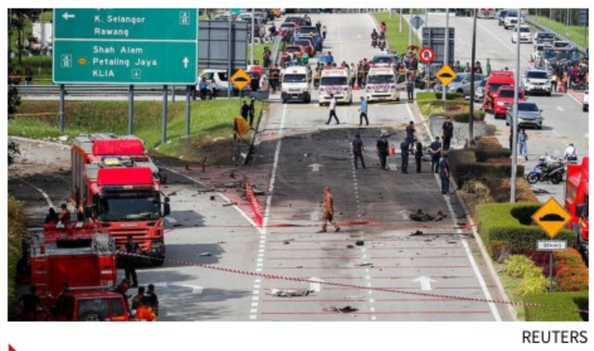
Libyan militia leader freed after deadly clashes that killed 55

REUTERS

A Libyan militia leader whose detention sparked clashes that killed 55 people in the capital Tripoli has been released, a military official said on Thursday. Gun battles had raged on the streets of Tripoli from Monday night through Tuesday after 444 Brigade leader Mahmoud Hamza was apprehended by the rival Al-Radaa Force. AFP

KUALA LUMPUR

Ten, including two motorists, killed in plane crash on street in Malaysia



REUTERS

A light plane crashed into a street in Malaysia's central Selangor state on Thursday, killing eight people on board and two motorists on the ground. Witnesses said the Beechcraft Model 390 burst into flames as it hit the ground near the suburb of Shah Alam, which houses a mix of residential homes and factories. AFP

DUBAI

Iranian filmmaker faces prison for screening film without permission

AP

Saeed Roustayi, an Iranian filmmaker, and his producer Javad Norouzbeigi reportedly face prison time and being barred from filmmaking after they showcased *Leila's Brothers*, a movie at the Cannes Film Festival without government approval, drawing immediate criticism internationally. AP

129 arrested in Pak. after mob attacks churches, Christians

The rampage started after some local Muslims claimed they had seen a local Christian tearing out pages from the Koran, throwing them down and writing insulting remarks on other pages

Associated Press
JARANWALA

The police in eastern Pakistan arrested 129 Muslims overnight after a Muslim mob angered over an alleged desecration of the Koran attacked churches and homes of minority Christians, prompting authorities to summon soldiers to restore order, officials said on Thursday.

The Christians living in the city of Jaranwala in the Faisalabad district quickly moved to safer places as the mob rampaged on Wednesday, and there were no casualties from what was one of the country's most destructive attacks against Christians.

They slowly returned home to see the destruction on Thursday. At least one church was burned, four were damaged and two dozen homes were torched or badly damaged.

Survival fight: Supporters of the National Christian Party condemning the attack on churches by a mob in Karachi. AP

Local Christians consoled each other outside their damaged homes, wept and cried, and those who lost their homes had no idea where to go or what to do now.

Local priest Khalid Mukhtar said earlier he believed most of Jaranwala's 17 churches had been attacked and his own home was damaged.

Delegations of Muslim clerics arrived in Jaranwala to help calm the situation, as troops and police patrolled the area. Local authorities have shut schools and offices and banned rallies for a week to prevent more violence.

The violence drew nationwide condemnation, with caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul-ul-Haq Kakar ordering police to ensure the rioters are arrested.

The rampage started after some local Muslims claimed they had seen a local Christian, Raja Amir, and his friend tearing out pages from a Koran, throwing them on the ground and writing insulting remarks. Police say they are trying to arrest Amir, who fled into hiding, to determine whether he desecrated Islam's holy book.

China assures support for Sri Lanka's debt relief ahead of crucial IMF review

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

China has pledged help for Sri Lanka's debt challenge yet again, even as the Ranil Wickremesinghe government tries to finalise the terms of restructuring its foreign loans with bilateral creditors.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Wednesday "vowed that China will help Sri Lanka effectively address the challenges of financial debt", according to a statement from the office of Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, who was the chief guest at the ongoing China-South Asia Exhibition in Kunming, in China's southern Yunnan Province.

Mr. Wang "vowed that China will help Sri Lanka improve its capacity for independent development, get rid of the poverty trap, accelerate its industrialisation process and agricultural modernisation." Mr. Gunawardena, who earlier called China a "decisive global leader" thanked the government for its "firm support" for Sri Lanka in "safeguarding its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and for its timely and effective assistance" to Sri Lanka in times of difficulty, the PM's office said on Thursday.

However, the statement did not indicate if Sri Lanka and China have reached an agreement on debt treatment, a development that Colombo keenly awaits, ahead of a crucial assessment by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) next month. An IMF team is scheduled to visit Colombo from September 14 to 37, to conduct the first review of the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) extended to Sri Lanka, according to a spokesperson of the Fund. While the first tranche of the EFF was disbursed soon after the IMF approved the $3-billion package in March this year, the second instalment is contingent on the Fund's assessment of Sri Lanka's progress on its commitments, including on debt treatment.

Sri Lanka's PM Dinesh Gunawardena with Wang Yi.

Sri Lanka is currently in talks with all its bilateral creditors to finalise the terms of restructuring the debt owed to them. China, the island's largest bilateral lender, has refused to become a member of the common platform that 17 creditor countries set up in May this year to negotiate Sri Lanka's foreign debt. While India and Japan emphasise the need for comparable terms, parity, and transparency, China continues to be an observer in the "official creditor committee", co-chaired by India, Japan, and France.

China's decision to stay out of the forum has made other creditors wary, according to Colombo-based official sources privy to the talks. The bilateral creditors, it is learnt, are yet to finalise the contours of their debt treatment plan, and are exploring different options including a moratorium, longer repayment term, lower interest, or a combination of these measures. Sri Lanka has expressed confidence over China's bilateral cooperation over a debt restructuring plan while assuring other creditors that treatment will be comparable.

Xi calls for patience as economy struggles

Associated Press
BEIJING

Chinese leader Xi Jinping has called for patience in a speech released as the ruling Communist Party tries to reverse a deepening economic slump and said Western countries are "increasingly in trouble" because of their materialism and "spiritual poverty".

Mr. Xi's speech was published by *Qiushi*, the party's top theoretical journal, hours after data on Tuesday showed consumer and factory activity weakened further in July despite official promises to support struggling entrepreneurs. The government skipped giving an update on a politically sensitive spike in unemployment among young people.

Mr. Xi, the country's most powerful leader in decades, called for China to "build a socialist ideology with strong cohesion" and to focus on long-term goals of improving education, health care and food supplies for China.

Socialist wins key Spanish Parliament vote

Associated Press
MADRID

Spain's newly elected Parliament voted on Thursday by a majority to elect a Socialist candidate as Chamber Speaker, breathing some life into acting Socialist Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's aspirations of forming another leftist government.

The crucial vote was won by Francina Armengol with 178 votes in the 350-member Lower House of Parliament, against 139 for the main conservative Popular Party's candidate.

It was the first parliamentary vote since inconclusive national elections on July 23 left no group with an easy path to form government. Parties on the left and right have almost an equal number of seats.

It remains to be seen if Mr. Sánchez can round up the same support should he be called on by the king to try to form a government. If not, a new election could be around the corner.

Parliament was also to vote on eight members of the Speaker's presiding council, a body that sets the agenda for parliamentary sessions.

Francina Armengol

Ms. Armengol won with the support of 14 votes from two separatist parties in the northeastern region of Catalonia, including seven from Junts (Together), a radical Catalan separatist party led by fugitive politician Carles Puigdemont.

Junts were quick to point out that the vote was solely for the Speaker position and did not indicate the party would back Mr. Sánchez.

The next hurdle to forming a government will come in the following days when King Felipe VI begins his consultations with the leaders of the different parties to see who has the best chance to form a government.

Civilian vessel from Ukraine nears Turkey

Agence France-Presse
ISTANBUL

A civilian cargo vessel sailing from Ukraine in defiance of a Russian blockade was hugging the coast of Bulgaria on Thursday on its way to Turkey, marine traffic monitors said.

The Hong Kong-flagged *Joseph Schulte* left the Ukrainian port of Odesa on Wednesday morning – the first vessel to sail since Russia attacked another ship in the Black Sea over the weekend.

A German company that co-owns the container vessel said it would "probably" reach its destination in Istanbul later on Thursday.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the ship was using a "new humanitarian corridor" that Kyiv established after Russia last month scuppered a landmark agreement allowing Ukraine to export grain and foodstuffs across the Black Sea.

Ukraine is a major exporter of grains.

Sport

Jamshedpur FC claims maiden victory; Indian Army gets past Bodoland FC

DURAND CUP

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Jamshedpur FC recorded its first win of the tournament as it defeated the Indian Navy Football Team by a solitary goal in a group-B league fixture of the 132nd Durand Cup here on Thursday.

Ashley Koli scored the lone goal of the match late in the second half to secure all three points for Jamshedpur.

The Red Miners joined Mohammedan Sporting in the second spot in the group standings.

Mumbai City FC is leading the group with six full points gained from two successive victories.

Winner: JFC's Ashley, right, found the target. TWITTER@THEDURANDCUP

This makes the final round matches of the group more interesting with all three sides standing a chance to qualify for the quarterfinals, which has the group toppers making it automatically.

There is scope for the second place finishers, too, as the best two runners-up from the six groups will make it to the last-eight.

In the other match of the day at the SAI Stadium in Kokrajhar, Indian Army FT beat local challenger Bodoland FC 2-1 for its second consecutive win in a group-F league fixture.

Samir Murmu put the Armymen ahead in the sixth minute before Suresh Meitei doubled the lead with a penalty in the second half injury-time.

Joe Aidoo reduced the margin in the final minute of injury-time.

Army's captain and goalkeeper Bhabindra Thakuri was sent off for a second yellow card just before the final whistle.

The results:

Group B (Kolkata): Jamshedpur FC 1 (Ashley Koli 70) bt Indian Navy FT 0.

Group F (Kokrajhar): Bodoland FC 1 (Aidoo 90+11) lost to Indian Army FT 2 (Samir 6, Suresh 90+4-pen).

Seventh Samurai primed to deliver in first division of Holding Court Stakes

RACING

BENGALURU: Seventh Samurai, who has been well tuned, is expected to score in the Holding Court Stakes (Div. I), (1,400m), the main event of the races to be held here on Friday (Aug 18). False rails (width about 2m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 BETWAY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY STAKES (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 1-30 p.m.: 1. Contador (5) S. John 62, 2. Treasure Chest (10) Inayat 62, 3. Sekhmet (4) Arvind K 61, 4. Double Vision (9) P. Siddaraju 59, 5. Lady Godiva (3) Chethan K 59, 6. Infinite Spirit (6) Vinod Shinde 58, 7. Altamonte (2) Vivek 57, 8. Ultimate Choice (7) B. Dharshan 56, 9. Russian Romance (8) Shreyas S 52.5 and 10. Perfect Halo (1) Rajesh K 52.

1. CONTADOR,
2. TREASURE CHEST,
3. SEKHMET

2 SHA TIN STAKES (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 2-00: 1. Southern Force (10) Akshay K 60.5, 2. Super Ruffian (3) Inayat 59, 3. My Solitaire (8) Rayan 55, 4. Oxytocin (7) Afsar Khan 55, 5. Domina (9) Antony 54, 6. Noble Ruler (2) Salman Khan 54, 7. Loving Pearl (4) R. Pradeep 53.5, 8. Jersey Legend (5) Arvind K 53, 9. Recreator (6) Vinod Shinde 52 and 10. Star Azeem (1) G. Vivek 51.5.

1. OXYTOCIN, 2. SOUTHERN FORCE, 3. SUPER RUFFIAN

3 BARALOY STAKES (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 6-y-o & over, 2-30: 1. Four Wheel Drive (1) Antony 62, 2. Queen Regnant (6) Likith Appu 62, 3. Southern Power (8) Akshay K 62, 4. Ombudsman (3) Shreyas S 60, 5. Striking Memory (7) Inayat 60, 6. Peluche (4) S. John 59.5, 7. Embosom (2) Vivek 55.5 and 8. Antilope (5) B. Dharshan 53.

1. SOUTHERN POWER,
2. FOUR WHEEL DRIVE,
3. PELUCHE

4 HOLDING COURT STAKES (DIV. II), (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-00: 1. Clyde Star (6) A. Ramu 56, 2. Double Scotch (3) Md. Aliyar 56, 3. Pharazon (11) C. Umesh 56, 4. Pyrgos (7) P. Tejeshwar 56, 5. The Whispering (1) Afsar Khan 56, 6. Avicena (8) Antony 54.5, 7. Burmese (2) Yash 54.5, 8. Exelero (10) J.H. Arul 54.5, 9. Halchemeny (9) S. Shareef 54.5, 10. Powerfull Princess (4) Inayat 54.5 and 11. Truth In Wine (5) Hindu S 54.5.

1. PHARAZON,
2. BURMESE,
3. TRUTH IN WINE

5 AUGUST STAKES (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 3-30: 1. Devils Magic (4) Inayat 60, 2. Aldgate (8) S. John 58.5, 3. Forty Niner (7) Akshay K 57, 4. Groovin (1) Trevor 56, 5. Super Kind (3) R. Pradeep 56, 6. Opus One (2) S. Saqlain 54.5, 7. Augusto (5) Arvind K 53.5, 8. Agera (9) G. Vivek 52 and 9. Stars Above (6) Likith Appu 52.

1. GROOVIN,
2. FORTY NINER,
3. ALDGATE

6 HOLDING COURT STAKES (DIV. I), (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Brave Majesty (10) Trevor 56, 2. Crown Witness (1) Vivek 56, 3. High Speed Dive (6) Vishal Bunde 56, 4. Lone Ranger (8) Neeraj 56, 5. Lord Moi (3) C. Umesh 56, 6. Palomino (2) G. Vivek 56, 7. Red Falcon (5) S. Saqlain 56, 8. River Of Gold (4) Akshay K 56, 9. Seventh Samurai (11) Antony 56, 10. Super Stride (7) Hindu S 56 and 11. Tigerking (9) Md. Aliyar 56.

1. SEVENTH SAMURAI,
2. RED FALCON, 3. RIVER OF GOLD

7 AUGUST STAKES (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Tripitaka (4) P. Siddaraju 62, 2. Eternal Princess (6) Vinod Shinde 61.5, 3. English Bay (3) Trevor 60, 4. Divine Blessings (1) Inayat 59, 5. Always Happy (2) Akshay K 58, 6. Archway (8) Antony 57.5, 7. Cash Out (7) R. Pradeep 54 and 8. Montelena (5) S. Saqlain 53.

1. ENGLISH BAY,
2. ALWAYS HAPPY,
3. ARCHWAY

8 SHA TIN STAKES (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. The Omega Man (4) Tousif 61, 2. Wish Again (2) Indrajeet S 59.5, 3. Star Comet (6) S. John 59, 4. The Golden Dream (5) M. Naveen 59, 5. Defining Power (3) Rajesh K 58.5, 6. Air Display (8) Inayat 57.5, 7. Castaneda (9) Antony 55.5, 8. Sling Shot (10) Vivek 53.5, 9. Solo Prince (7) Arvind K 53.5 and 10. Empire Of Dreams (1) G. Vivek 52.5.

1. SOLO PRINCE, 2, WISH AGAIN,
3. EMPIRE OF DREAMS

Day's best: **PHARAZON**
Double: **SEVENTH SAMURAI – ENGLISH BAY**
Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; Tr (i): 3, 4 and 5; (ii): 6, 7 and 8.

FOR TEAM'S SAKE

Kohli should bat down the order, says former head coach Shastri

Ravi Shastri said that Kohli should drop down the order during the upcoming Asia Cup and ICC World Cup. He said said that moving Kohli down the order will also break up the heavy top order and add experience and batting depth to the lower-middle order. "If Virat has to bat at four, he will do so for the team," said the former India coach.

MISSING OUT

Brook unlucky not to make the World Cup squad: Atherton

Former England captain Michael Atherton said the omission of young, rising batting sensation Harry Brook from the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 squad was largely due to Ben Stokes' return to the ODI format after reversing his retirement. This has left no room for the big-hitting Brook. "Brook is the unlucky one," he said.

NEW ROLE

Sumariwalla elected World Athletics VP; Coe stays president

AFI president Adille Sumariwalla on Thursday became a member of the World Athletics Executive Board after he was elected one of the four vice-presidents, the highest post occupied by an Indian in the track and field governing body. He will serve a four-year term. Sebastian Coe was elected president for a third and final term.

WFI ELECTIONS

Brij Bhushan camp moves Apex Court challenging the stay

The Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh camp on Thursday moved the Supreme Court challenging the stay on the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) elections by the Punjab and Haryana High Court. It is learnt from sources that the case will come up for hearing next week.

Praggnanandhaa stops Arjun in a memorable clash, makes semifinals

Clinches the issue in 72 moves, and along with Caruana and Abasov, is set to fill the qualifying spots available for the 2024 Candidates tournament

CHESS WORLD CUP

Sports Bureau

Amid nerve-wracking tension, R. Praggnanandhaa ended Arjun Erigaisi's comeback tale, ironically by pulling off a rare victory with white for a 5-4 triumph and advanced to the semifinals of the FIDE World Cup chess in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Thursday.

In a memorable clash spread over nine games, where the players won three times each with the black pieces, Praggnanandhaa clinched the issue in 72 moves.

Battle of wits: With the contest moving to a phase where the first decisive game decided the winner, Praggnanandhaa got it right against Arjun. *Right:* Bulgaria's surprise packet Salimova upstaged Muzychuk to enter the final. TWITTER@FIDE_CHESS

Testing time-control

Despite a testing time-control of three minutes and two-second increment per move per player, Praggnanandhaa arrived 30 seconds late for the key game and still managed to come out stronger with precise play.

After a day's rest on Saturday, Praggnanandhaa plays USA's Fabiano Caruana and favourite Magnus Carlsen faces Azerbaijan's Nijat Abasov.

With Carlsen officially declining to be part of the eight-player 2024 Candidates tournament in Toronto from April 2 to 25, leading to the World title match, Pragganandhaa, Caruana and Abasov are set to fill the three qualifying spots available from this competition.

Thursday saw plenty of action. After two uneventful 25-minute drawn rapid games, the rest of the battle was full of drama. From an objectively lost position to a dramatic victory, Praggnanandhaa experienced every emotion before snatching the first 10-minute rapid game.

Undeterred, Arjun also struck with black to draw level and force the set of blitz games.

It was clear that both were equally alert in decisively punishing any blunder. Unlike the two rapid games, the shorter duration face-offs were full of thrills and these genial teenagers were going for each other's throats.

Fierce fight

The fierce fight continued in the blitz games, where each player had five minutes and a three-second increment per move to finish the games.

Once again, the winner emerged from behind black pieces as Praggnanandhaa launched a king-side attack to win in just 31 moves to lead 4-3. For the second time, Arjun hit back to prove that black was the new 'white' on this day.

With the players locked at 4-4, the contest moved to a phase where the first decisive game decided the winner and Praggnanandhaa got it right.

In the women's semifinal, Bulgaria's surprise packet Nurgyul Salimova upstaged Ukraine's Anna Muzychuk 3.5-2.5 for a place in the final against Russian second seed Aleksandra Goryachkina.

The results: Open: Quarterfinal, tie-breaker: R. Praggnanandhaa (2690) bt Arjun Erigaisi (2710) 5-4. **Women: Semifinal, tie-breaker:** Nurgyul Salimova (Bul, 2409) bt Anna Muzychuk (Ukr, 2504) 3.5-2.5.

On the podium: Shiva, Sarabjot, and Arjun with their bronze medal. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Air pistol team bronze for India

SHOOTING

Sports Bureau

The Indian squad warmed up with the men's air pistol team bronze medal in the World Championship shooting in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Thursday.

Shiva Narwal, Sarabjot Singh and Arjun Singh Cheema were far from making the individual final of the top-8 but together got the medal behind China and Germany.

It was hard for the Indian shooters Esha Singh, Palak Gulia and Divya T.S. in the women's air pistol also, as they were placed 32nd, 40th and 66th in a strong field of 118 shooters. As a team, they were 11th.

In skeet, Anant Jeet Singh Naruka shot 48 in two rounds, and found himself in the 45th spot, as there were 10 with perfect 50 and 29 more with 49. Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Gurjot Khangura had shot 47 each.

After three rounds were shot in women's skeet, Parinaaz Dhaliwal was the best among the Indians with 71. Ganemat Sekhon and Darshna Rathore followed with 70 and 69 respectively.

The results: 10m air pistol: Men: 1. Zhang Bowen (Chn) 244.3 (587); 2. Damir Mikec (Srb) 240.8 (583); 3. Kiril Kirov (Bul) 215.7 (582); 17. Shiva Narwal 579; 18. Sarabjot Singh 578; 26. Arjun Singh Cheema 577. **Team:** 1. China 1749; 2. Germany 1743; 3. India 1734. **Women:** 1. Jiang Ranxin (Chn) 239.8 (581); 2. Anna Korakaki (Gre) 238.3 (584); 3. Li Xue (Chn) 218.9 (578); 32. Esha Singh 572; 40. Palak Gulia 570; 66. Divya T.S. 566. **Team:** 1. China 1728; 2. Hungary 1726; 3. Iran 1724; 11. India 1708.

Fit-again Bumrah ready to bowl long spells

Press Trust of India
DUBLIN

After spending 11 months away from the game, a fit-again Jasprit Bumrah is back hungrier than ever and says he is ready to bowl long spells for India in the Asia Cup and the subsequent ODI World Cup at home.

Bumrah, who last played in September 2022 before lower-back stress fractures pushed him on the sidelines for the "biggest break" of his cricketing career, is making his much-anticipated comeback in the T20I series in Ireland.

He will be required to bowl four overs per game but speaking ahead of the first match on Friday, Bumrah said the plan was always to prepare for 50-over events, including the Asia Cup beginning on August 31 and the World Cup at home, starting on October 5.

"We were mindful of the fact there is no Test cricket till the ODI World Cup. In my rehab as well, I was not preparing for a T20 game. I was always preparing for the World Cup. I have been bowling 10, 12 and even 15 overs. We kept that in mind that we are preparing for one-day competition."

Bumrah's men all set for the Ireland challenge

INDIA IN IRELAND

Press Trust of India
DUBLIN

Almost 11 months after he hobbled off the field, Jasprit Bumrah will be cynosure of all eyes when he leads India against Ireland as the fast bowler's fitness and rhythm will be tested in the three-match T20I series, starting Friday.

The team is packed with India's Gen-Next IPL performers like Ruturaj Gaikwad, Rinku Singh and Jitesh Sharma but stakeholders in Indian cricket will keenly observe Bumrah, who will be key to the team's plans during the ODI World Cup starting in less than two months.

The 29-year-old Bumrah is coming back after undergoing a surgery to treat the lower-back stress fractures he had suffered during the home series against Australia last year.

The Ireland series gives Bumrah an ideal opportunity to get ready for the Asia Cup as well.

Ireland, led by Andrew Balbirnie with useful players like Harry Tector, Lorcan Tucker, left-arm spinner George Dockrell, Josh Little is a quality side in the shortest format even though it is yet to win a match against India

Planning stage: The second-string Indian squad will be looking forward to making full use of the opportunity ahead. TWITTER@BCCI

Sanju Samson is unlikely to get into the playing XI unless head coach Sitanshu Kotak gets a standing instruction from main team management to play him ahead of Asia Cup.

Jitesh and Rinku are expected to get their T20I India caps while Shivam Dube would vie for a shot at redemption. Just like Bumrah, Prasidh Krishna is making a comeback to competitive cricket.

It is expected that selectors would check out Prasidh's form before taking a final call on the Asia Cup squad expected to be announced soon.

Cricket Ireland said tickets for the first and second T20Is are now sold out and for the third match, they are selling quickly.

The squads (from):

India: Jasprit Bumrah (capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad (vice capt.), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh, Sanju Samson (wk.), Jitesh Sharma (wk.), Shivam Dube, Washington Sundar, Shahbaz Ahmed, Ravi Bishnoi, Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh, Mukesh Kumar, Avesh Khan.

Ireland: Andrew Balbirnie (capt.), Harry Tector, Lorcan Tucker, Ross Adair, Mark Adair, Curtis Campher, Gareth Delany, George Dockrell, Fionn Hand, Josh Little, Barry McCarthy, Ben White, Craig Young, Theo van Weorkom.

Match starts: 7:30 p.m. IST.

Priya. TWITTER

Priya claims gold for India

WRESTLING

Sports Bureau

A day after freestyle wrestler Mohit Kumar's 61kg title win, Priya (women's 76kg) earned another gold medal for the country in the World under-20 championships in Amman, Jordan, on Thursday.

Despite a bleeding head, Priya defeated Germany's Laura Kuehn 5-0 in the summit clash to emerge the champion. Arju (68kg) bagged the bronze.

Defending champion Antim Panghal (53kg), who won a ticket to the Hangzhou Asian Games following Vinesh Phogat's withdrawal due to a knee injury, reached her second consecutive final.

Apart from Mohit, Sagar Jaglan (79kg), who got a silver, and Jaideep (74kg), Deepak Chahal (97kg) and Rajat Ruhal (125kg), who took bronze, won medals in freestyle.

Fruitful day for India at the Archery World Cup Stage-4

Good showing: The men's and women's recurve teams that snared bronze medals. TWITTER/WORLD ARCHERY

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

The Indian recurve men's and women's teams collected two bronze medals while compound archer V. Jyothi Surekha entered the women's individual semi-finals on a fruitful day for the country at the Archery World Cup Stage-4 in Paris on Thursday.

The second-ranked Indian recurve men's side, comprising B. Dhiraj, Atanu Das and Tushar Shelke, defeated Spain 6-2 in the bronze medal match.

The sixth-placed women's team, consisting of Bhajan Kaur, Simranjeet Kaur and Ankita Bhakat, upset World championships bronze medallist Mexico 5-4 (27-25) via shoot-off in the contest for bronze to get its first medal of the season.

Consistency

In compound, Worlds bronze medallist Jyothi Surekha's consistency helped her reach the medal rounds. World champion Aditi Swami missed the target once in the quarterfinals and lost to Great Britain's Ella Gibson.

In the men's competition, World champion Ojas Deotale crashed out in the first round.

The results: Recurve: Team: Men: India got a bye, bt Mexico 6-0, bt Canada 5-1 in QF, lost to Chinese Taipei 0-6 in SF, bt Spain 6-2 in bronze medal match.

Women: India got a bye, bt Japan 6-2, bt Italy 5-1 in quarterfinal, lost to Chinese Taipei 0-6 in semifinal, bt Mexico 5-4 (shoot-off: 27-25) in bronze medal match.

Compound: Individual: Men: Ojas Deotale lost to Jiang Ying Eer (Sgp) 142-145 in first round; Prathamesh Jawkar bt Jay Tjin-A-Djie (Ned) 144-144 (shoot-off: 10*-10, shot closer to centre), bt Jesse Sut (Ita) 147-144, bt Mathias Fullerton (Den) 148-148 (shoot-off: 10*-10), lost to Stefan Heincz (Aut) 140-147 in QF; Rajat Chauhan bt Mohammad Juwaidi Mazuki (Mal) 145-144, lost to Miguel Becerra (Mex) 142-146 in second round; Abhishek Verma bt Adrien Gontier (Fra) 146-139, lost to Mike Schloesser 146-147.

Women: V. Jyothi Surekha bt Chiu Yee Poon (Hkg) 145-131, bt Li Ju Chen (Tpe) 148-145, bt I-Jou Huang (Tpe) 148-145, bt Dafne Quintero (Mex) 147-144 in QF; Aditi Swami bt Aurora Janssen (Ned) 144-133, bt Parneet Kaur 146-141, bt Grace Chappell 145-144, lost to Ella Gibson (Gbr) 135-148 in QF; Avneet Kaur bt Mariana Bernal (Mex) 147-145, lost to Fatin Nurfatehah Mat Salleh (Mal) 146-147.

INBRIEF

Vimal, Mohammed stand bails out TNCA President's XI

Vimal Khumar's, *in pic.*, 144 (293b, 10x4, 2x6) helped TNCA President's XI declare its innings at 333 for nine and take a six-run first innings lead against Indian Railways in the Buchi Babu invitation tournament in Chennai on Thursday.

The scores (day three): At Coimbatore: Indian Railways 327 & 34/0 in 16 overs vs TNCA President's XI 333/9 decl. in 124 overs (R. Vimal Khumar 144, M. Mohammed 45).
At Tirunelveli: Kerala 218 & 178 in 59.3 overs (Sachin Baby 56, Jhathavedh Subramanyan 4/44) lost to TNCA XI 358 in 107.2 overs (K.T.A. Madhava Prasad 72, M. Shahrukh Khan 60, Nidhish S. Rajagopal 90) & 39 for no loss in 7.5 overs.
At Dindigul: Baroda 339 & 36/3 in 13 overs vs Haryana 63 & 326 in 100.5 overs (Yuvraj Singh 63, Rohit Sharma 73, Harshal Patel 61, Mahesh Pithiya 5/80).
At Salem: Mumbai 619/7 decl. vs Delhi 324/3 in 105 overs (Vaibhav Sharma 41, Himmat Singh 127 batting, Jonty Sidhu 114 batting).

Matsuda hogs the limelight, makes the women's semifinal

Shino Matsuda of Japan made it to the women's semifinals of Tamil Nadu International Surf Open World Surf League (WSL) Qualifying Series (QS) 3,000 in Mahabalipuram on Thursday. Matsuda posted the highest two-wave total of the event so far in the round of 16 and backed it up with another heat win in quarterfinals.

LIVE TELECAST

Maharaja Trophy T20: Star Sports 2 & LIV, 1 & 5.30 p.m.
Durand Cup: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3 & 6 p.m.
Ireland vs India: 1st T20I, Sports 18-1 & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 & Jio Cinema App, 11 p.m. & 1 a.m. (Saturday).
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday).
Premier League: SS Select 1 & Hotstar, 12.15 a.m. (Saturday).
ATP: Masters 1000, Western & Southern Classic, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30 a.m. (Saturday).

Captain's innings: Pandey top-scored with an unbeaten 69 in his team's 63-run win. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Lions scrapes past Mystics in thriller

The defending champion loses three matches in a row; Hubli Tigers defeats Mangalore Dragons comfortably

MAHARAJA TROPHY

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Shivamogga Lions registered a three-wicket win over Gulbarga Mystics in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Thursday.

Set a target of 176, the Lions were 39 for five at one stage. But they were bailed out first by Shreyas Gopal (52, 37b, 4x4, 2x6) and then by the trio of Abhinav Manohar (28, 32b, 1x6), S. Shivaraj (27 n.o., 17b, 3x4, 1x6) and H.S. Sharath (31 n.o., 11b, 2x4, 3x6).

Shivaraj and Sharath in fact plundered 39 runs from just 16 balls to secure the victory. Karnataka speedster V. Vyshak couldn't defend six runs from the last over.

Mystics, who were asked the bat first, rode on knocks from Aadarsh Prajwal (43, 41b, 5x4, 1x6) and R. Smaran (40, 28b, 4x4, 1x6). But with little support from the others, the Kalaburagi side, also the defending champion, appeared destined to lose a third match in a row.

In the day's second encounter, Hubli Tigers kept up its winning run, defeating Mangalore Dragons by a comfortable 63-run margin. The trio of Mohammed Taha, K.L. Shrijith and Manish Pandey scored half-centuries to propel their side to 215.

The Dragons could only manage 152, as leggie Praveen Dubey bowled a miserly spell (4-0-13-2) and held on to three catches to back up his effort with the bat (18 n.o., 4b, 1x4, 2x6) to walk away with the Player-of-the-Match award.

The scores: Gulbarga Mystics 175/6 in 20 overs (Aadarsh Prajwal 43, R. Smaran 40, Kranthi Kumar 3/17) lost to Shivamogga Lions 179/7 in 19.5 overs (Shreyas Gopal 52, Abhinav Manohar 28, S. Shivaraj 27 n.o., H.S. Sharath 31 n.o.); **PoM:** Shreyas.
Hubli Tigers 215/5 in 20 overs (Mohammed Taha 52, K.L. Shrijith 52, Manish Pandey 69 n.o.) bt Mangalore Dragons 152/8 in 20 overs (B.R. Sharath 38, K.V. Siddharth 47 n.o., Nathan D'Mello 3/23); **PoM:** Praveen Dubey.
Friday's matches: Mysuru Warriors vs. Shivamogga Lions; Bengaluru Blasters vs. Mangalore Dragons.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Anway Dravid hits double century

Anvay Dravid, the son of India head coach Rahul Dravid, scored a 140-ball 264 to take Mallya Aditi International School to a big win against Innisfree House in the KSCA Cup under-16 second division inter-club tournament. Anvay hit 49 fours.
The scores:
BGS (Hulimavu) 516/5 in 50 overs (Ayush Patil 89, Sai Akhilesh 133, Dhruv Shetty 195, R. Shreyas 47) bt Florence 47 in 14.5 overs (Vishwa Venkatadri 6/20).
Mallya Aditi 526/4 in 50 overs (Yashas Shankar 101, Anvay Dravid 264, Arhaan Jai Singh 113) bt Innisfree House 70 in 19.3 overs (Arhaan Dadu 5/14, Ishan N Kausthubh 3/7).
Ryan IS (Kundanahalli) 366/9 in 48 overs (Sanchit Kumar 71, Alex George 95, Sameer Kulkarni 26, Sanjay Loganathan 31 n.o.) bt MES Kishore Kendra 94 in 19.2 overs (Vasanth Kumar 59, S. Gurucharan 3/20, Sanjay Loganathan 3/26).
Presidency School (RT Nagar) 459/7 in 50 overs (Mohammed Raheel 72, Omkar Bhandari 121, Niranjan Ashok 52, Ravindra Dere 30 n.o.) bt Presidency School (Nandini Layout) 75 in 17.4 overs (Chinmay Rajesh 25, Mohammed Shamsheer 3/12, Niranjan Ashok 3/11, P. Monish 3/7).
Kensri School 350/6 in 50 overs (Ansuman 132, S. Shashank 54, Nischay Savanth 76, Mukul Gowda 31 n.o., Pratham Gadiya 3/58) bt The Cathedral HS 180 in 34.1 overs (Pratham Gadiya 54, Mihir Malik 31, C.S. Dushyanth 4/39).
VVS Sardar Patel 140 in 39.5 overs (A.M. Srihari 53, C.N. Bhargav 29 n.o., Aniruddha Kanchi 3/23) bt Sri Kumaran Children's Home 114 in 28.3 overs (Ranjodh Raghavan 4/24, Vivek 3/18).

Brace by Shlok

Shlok Tiwari's brace helped Kodak FC grab a 2-2 draw against Roots FC in the Super Division football league on Thursday.

The results: BUFC 2 (Pranendra Singh 2-og, Premjit Singh 45) drew with MFAR Student's Union 2 (Singh Rathore 69, Pratik Swami 86); Roots FC 2 (P. Shibin 18, Godwin Johnson 35) drew with Kodagu FC 2 (Shlok Tiwari 74, 86).

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Dharwadkar powers Dharwad Zone

BENGALURU: Madhava Dharwadkar (85) powered Dharwad Zone past Mysore Zone in the KSCA under-19 inter-mofussil tournament here.
The scores: Mysore Zone 189 in 46.1 overs (Likith Gowda 25, Tejas Krishnan 61, H. Amogh 26) lost to Dharwad Zone 193/5 in 41.5 overs (Madhava Dharwadkar 85, Manikanth Shivanand 28).
Tumkur Zone 149 in 39.5 overs (Gaurav Krishna 50, C.E. Harshith 28, Pavan Madival 3/24) lost to Mangalore Zone 153/3 in 27.5 overs (R. Pratham 29, Akshay Kamath 52 n.o., Nischith Pai 39 n.o.).
Raichur Zone 252/9 in 50 overs (Laxmikant Suryavanshi 44, Wardhan Khuba 61, Prabhu Sasalatti 57, S. Shivaprasad 3/38) bt Shivamogga Zone 214 in 47 overs (A. Amshu 27, M. Tanmay 54, S. Shivaprasad 32).

In full flow: Dhinidhi came up with a sensational swim in the 100m freestyle for group II girls to clock 57.67s. FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Dhinidhi and Ishaan set new meet records

Karnataka's Dhinidhi Desinghu and Ishaan Mehra set new meet records on the second day of the 39th sub-junior and 49th junior National aquatic championships in Bhubaneswar on Thursday. Dhinidhi came up with a sensational swim in the 100m freestyle for group II girls to clock 57.67s and erase Maana Patel's previous best of 59.12s set in 2014.

Ishaan rewrote the national record in 100m freestyle for group II boys, coming home in 1:00.64s to better Suhas Pretham's mark (1:01.29s) from 2022.
Select results (winners all):
Boys: Group II: 100m backstroke: Ishaan Mehra (Kar) 1.00.64s (NMR; OR: 1:01.29, Suhas Pretham, 2022); **50m butterfly:** Harikarthik Velu (Kar) 27.58; **Group III: 100m freestyle:** Jas Singh (Kar) 1:04.61.
Girls: Group I: 100m freestyle: S. Rujula (Kar) 59.67; **200m breaststroke:** S. Lakshya (Kar) 2:40.96; **Group II: 100m freestyle:** Dhinidhi Desinghu (Kar) 57.67 (NMR; OR: 59.12, Maana Patel, 2014); **200m freestyle:** Thanya Shadakshari (Kar) 2:44:21.

#Terms and conditions apply. *Cashback applicable for Pulsar 150 Twin Disc variant. #Starting price and Down payment for Pulsar 125 Neon variant. Down payment is excluding processing fees & other charges and is based on fulfilment of credit parameters. Finance at sole discretion of the financier. Bajaj Auto reserves the right to withdraw any or all offers without prior notice. Stunts have been performed by experts, under professional supervision, in a controlled and enclosed environment, in isolation from general public or public roads. Please do not attempt to replicate these stunts and always follow traffic and safety rules. AMC available on specific models and in specific states. Check with Bajaj dealer for more details. Road Side Assistance is provided by third parties and is subject to their terms and conditions.

Authorized Dealers for BAJAJ Auto Ltd.: Bommanahalli AMBA BAJAJ: 9535411100 • HSR Layout AMBA BAJAJ: 8884333732 • Sarjapur AMBA BAJAJ: 7406688884• BTM Layout AMBA BAJAJ: 9513926221• Madiwala AMBA BAJAJ: 9945000048• Electronic City AMBA BAJAJ: 8971711118• Nayandahalli Mysore Rd RV BAJAJ: 6360308373 • Chandra Layout Moodalapalya RV BAJAJ: 9740444545 • Kengeri RV BAJAJ: 7353763305 • Giri Nagar RV BAJAJ: 7353763302• Vijaynagar RV BAJAJ: 7353763307• Banashankari POPULAR BAJAJ: 9945111874 • Koramangala POPULAR BAJAJ: 9845589079 • Rajajinagar POPULAR BAJAJ : 6366554001• Konankunte POPULAR BAJAJ: 7760967834 • Ramnagara POPULAR BAJAJ: 7760967832 • Kanakpura POPULAR BAJAJ: 9972533890 • POPULAR BAJAJ Channapatna 9901947666 • POPULAR BAJAJ Uttarahalli 9972095890 • POPULAR BAJAJ Gottigere 7760996891 • Yelahanka KALYANI BAJAJ: 9449849618 • Mekhri circle KALYANI BAJAJ 8884413593 Mathikere KALYANI BAJAJ: 8884430126 • Chickbellapur KALYANI BAJAJ: 8884413594 • Devenhalli KALYANI BAJAJ: 9449849624 • Marathahalli KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9036091986 • Kasturba Rd KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060140 • Indiranagar KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060139 • Hennur KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9742155225 • Banaswadi KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060147 • Yeshwanthpur : KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: - 96320 68142 • Hesargatta KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060148 • Whitefield KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035060142 • Dobbospet :KHIVRAJ BAJAJ : 8951858121. K R Puram : KHIVRAJ BAJAJ 63669117397 • Hoskote KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 9035005075 • Magadi Rd ANANT BAJAJ: 9980009166 • Laggere ANANT BAJAJ: 7022984402 • Kolar : KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • Malur KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 81970 13783 • KGF KHIVRAJ BAJAJ: 7349507477 • Tumkur AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040212• Tiptur AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040226 • Sira AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040328 • Kunigal AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7338662706 • Madhugiri AKSHAYA BAJAJ: 7259040340 • BH Road: 7338662687 • Bidar SINDOL BAJAJ 9513226555. **Authorised Service Centre:** K R Puram 9886779827, 9845888872 • Ramagondanahalli 8197515476 • Puttenahalli 9353841613 • Anekal 9900307992 • Jigani 9964538593 • Hegganahalli 9986024827 • Nelamangala 9620203739 • Kanteerava studio 8453865558 • Chintamani 9986090015 • Gowribidanur 9845683795 • Vidyaranyapura 9611100318 • Doddaballapur 9901653555 • H Cross 9880127577 • Bagepalli 9901903009 • Vijayapura 9980008617 • MS Palya 9945517555 • Thanisandra 9845871393 • Attibele 9743393444 • Dommasandra 8722297002 • Chandapur 9740089356 • Huskurgate 9008309007 • uppanagar 9845964468 • Nagadevanahalli 8494930790 • • Byadarahalli 9964342264 • Magadi 9632613088 • Tavarakere 9845454807 • Turuvekere 9980225444• C N Halli 9448432865 • Gubbi 9980315559• Pavagad 9448333305• Huliyar 9900390362 • Valmiki Nagar 9844174606.